

USSR Renews Bid for German Treaty; Acheson Snubs French Fear of Nazis

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POW's Mother Here in Tour To Rouse People for Peace

A quiet-voiced, graying American mother was out in the drenching New York rain yesterday, going from one newspaper office to another, trying to tell editors why this country has to make peace in Korea. Mrs. Paul Schnur of San Francisco has her own personal stake in peace—her son Pfc. Paul, Jr., a recipient of the Bronze Star, has been a prisoner of war in Korea since Nov. 30, 1950. But it is not for herself alone, but for all the mothers of America that she has made the long trip (her first) to New York from her home.

Today (Monday) she will visit the United Nations and seek an audience with secretary-general Trygve Lie, and with Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, U. S. delegate to the UN's Human Rights Commission.

Mrs. Schnur will show to them what she considers to be a document of very great importance for every American—a document which she has asked New York's biggest newspapers and press associations to make public to their

readers.

The document, written in blue ink on rice paper, somewhere in North Korea, was signed by 92 American and British prisoners of war. It was received only last week by Mr. and Mrs. Schnur from their son, one of the signers of this "open letter to the American public."

"We the undersigned," it begins, "American and British prisoners of war who have seen the suffering and destruction of war, wish to make known our desire for an early settlement and an end to the Korean conflict."

And, the appeal continues: "Recently we heard that both sides in the fighting had downed arms only to resume hostilities

again, on the orders of the President who gave as one reason the safety of the prisoners of war being held by the enemy.

"How, may we ask, does continuation of slaughter at the front ensure our safety? On the contrary, we do not feel safe at all. Air battles are continually being fought above our camp and we are filled with fear every time the alert is sounded and planes come over."

"We would like to inquire also," the statement continues, "as to what is to be accomplished by continued fighting after agreement has already been made on the cease-fire line? Must killing and destruction go on merely for the sake of killing and destruction?"

"We ask, you, as American citizens, loyal to American traditions, to do all in your power to secure the issuance of a final official cease-fire order that will enable all of us to return to our homes where we are entitled to pursue happiness and live out our lives as useful citizens."

HAVING RECEIVED a cold reception at the Associated Press (where she was told POW's pleas for peace are "controversial" and can't be printed) and having visited the Times, Tribune and other papers, Mrs. Schnur spoke to this newspaper yesterday afternoon.

"There's either going to be peace or full-scale war," she said, "and there isn't much time."

She expressed great concern that the U. S. government's refusal to approve the release of all prisoners on both sides in the Korean

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With the French government showing a last-minute panic at the Acheson-Eisenhower plan to arm a new Nazi army on its borders, Secretary Acheson pushed ahead yesterday to get the signatures on his "contract" for a new Wehrmacht war machine.

At the last moment, with practically all of West Europe dreading the Washington-backed revival of the Hitler militarists, the Soviet Union made one more effort to get a peaceful around-the-table settlement of the German question.

According to the press reports which late yesterday had not yet given more than the most meager facts about the latest Soviet peace proposal, the Soviet note again urged a Big Four conference. The note also declared that the Acheson-Eisenhower plan for a new Wehrmacht headed by Hitler's generals "imposes upon the German people the necessity of seeking their own way toward a peace treaty and national unification."

URGE CONFERENCE

In previous notes to Washington, London and Paris, Moscow proposed a peace conference to sign a peace treaty with Germany providing for all-German elections, for a policy of neutrality guaranteed by the Big Four, for withdrawal of all occupying armies, and for the restoration of Germany's peacetime economy, with the right to have national defense forces under Big Four supervision.

Washington has been alarmed by the widespread support in Germany for these proposals. Acheson rushed to Bonn to force through the signatures in order to face the wide German opposition in the Bundestag with an accomplished fact.

On Friday, the Socialist Party leader, Kurt Schumacher, said that anyone signing the pact "could no longer be considered a German." The Paris cabinet phoned Foreign Minister Robert Schuman over the weekend to get him to delay the "contract" until French fears could be quieted.

The French ruling circles are frightened at the revival of their recent Nazi enemies, and have been frantically demanding "guarantees" against another Nazi attack. Washington has been unable to provide such guarantees, although rumors

Paris Editor Jailed for Peace Editorial

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have been coming thick and fast that the State Department would promise to treat its "ally" West Germany as an "aggressor" if it broke out of the "contract" with Washington. But this promise has angered the West German circles, even in the Bonn government, who see in it a permanent threat, and a weakening of their "equality."

Acheson shoved aside the French demands late yesterday for some new "guarantees." He also appeared, according to the press, to decide to pay no attention to the latest Moscow offer for a peace conference on the German issue.

Observers here warn that the ruthless trampling on the opposition to a new German fascist army will increase the danger of war in Europe. They also note the opposition to the Acheson-Eisenhower deal with the Nazis is so great that a new struggle is probably opening up in all the countries of Europe to prevent the parliamentary adoption or implementation of the new war alliance.

Scherer Off Critical List

Marcel Scherer is off the critical list, Mount Sinai Hospital announced yesterday. Scherer, executive secretary of the newly-organized New York Peace Institute and a veteran trade union and peace leader, collapsed several weeks ago while addressing a peace gathering.

Scherer's family yesterday thanked the many blood donors who had responded to the appeal made in his behalf. New Yorkers came through with a tremendous response, some 150 donating blood in two days.

JERSEY CIO HEAD URGES DEFEAT OF SMITH BILL

NEWARK, N. J., May 25.—Carl Holderman, president of the New Jersey State CIO, today in a letter to all Jersey Congressmen, urged defeat of the Smith Bill, providing for Government seizure of unions that go on strike.

The bill is "vicious" and "not one of its many provisions has any semblance of fairness" Holderman said.

To Dramatize Kojé POW Issue In Great Festival for Peace

Widespread public concern over the serious turn of events in Korea over the POW issue which is blocking a truce gives the coming Wednesday night Peace Festival at St. Nicholas Arena a special meaning, its sponsors said yesterday.

With top Washington circles warning of the possibility of spreading the war in Asia, the Peace Festival will see New Yorkers gathering to celebrate the brotherhood of the arts, and to raise their voices for a Korea peace.

Negro and white stage, screen and TV stars will appear in "Stars of Peace," a dramatic presentation which will protest the Kojé Island prisoner of war scandal and urge peace in Korea and a five power pact. The peace festival is jointly sponsored by the American Peace Crusade and the New York Institute for Peace.

In connection with the POW issue blocking peace, the sponsors applauded the statement made by Indian Prime Minister Nehru in which he declared: "... It does seem a tragedy that the future of peace or war, not only in the Far East but in the whole world, should hang on one issue—the exchange of prisoners."

Among those who will appear in "Stars of Peace" will be screen actor Lloyd Cough, poet Beulah Richardson, singer Nadyne Brewer, stage actor Maxwell Glanville, stage actress Milroy Ingram, TV actress Adelaide Bean, Chinese dancer Chai Li Chee, Indian dancer Gina, Unity and Queens Chorus, and New York Dance Workshop. Taking its keynotes from Earl Robinson's "Spring Song" phrase:

"Oh, is that a time for dying in the spring, for women to be crying in the spring," the dramatic presentation will depict typical reactions of American Negroes and whites, soldiers and civilians, parents and children, men and women to the Korean war this spring.

The original script was written by Yvonne Gregory, former "Ebony" staff writer. Produced by Joseph Sander, "Stars for Peace" will be directed by Julian Mayfield and Michael Lewin.

"Stars for Peace" will mark the premiere of a special peace cantata, entitled "Mothers of Peace," written for the occasion by Rayna Hayim.

THE HOUSING SWINDLE

The 'Slum Clearance' Racket; A Double Harvest for Landlords

By MICHAEL SINGER
(Second of a series)

Every day one of the most bitter, relentless and widespread sagas of New York City's working class is being unfolded at City Hall, before state rent control offices, in long hopeless lines at realty offices, in grim emergency meetings at tenant committee headquarters. It is the story of

unavailable homes, disappearing low-rent apartments, the nightmare of mounting rent gouges and soaring evictions.

Within the next few weeks this struggle will reach a climax of new tenant battles against a concerted landlord offensive never equaled in its ferocious disregard of the barest subsistence and shelter needs of millions of wage-ear-

ers, low-income families, desperate fixed-income white collar and civil service employees, and particularly, the worst-housed, most-exploited, least-aided sections of New York—the Negro and Puerto Rican peoples.

The Board of Estimate plans swift action on plans to build four new "slum-clearance" projects: a 1,396 dwelling unit from West

139 St. and Lenox Ave. to West 143 St. and Lenox Ave.; a \$30-a-room per month project of 1,105 units bounded by West 135 St., Fifth Ave., West 132 St. and Lenox Ave.; Manhattan town (to be known as West Park) from West 97 St. to West 100 St. and including Columbus Ave., Amsterdam Ave. and Central Park West to

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RALLY TOMORROW AT HOTEL CAPITOL TO DEFEND FREE SPEECH

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Michigan Peace Meet Stresses Labor Stake In Big 5 No-War Pact

DETROIT, May 25.—At the Michigan Peace Council's conference last weekend some 100 participants, Negro and white, from Detroit, Flint, St. Joseph, Ann Arbor, tackled the job of crystalizing the majority peace sentiment at a moment—as former State Sen. Stanley Nowak put it—when the turning point between war and peace is ominously near.

Rev. Willard Uphaus, co-chairman of the American Peace Crusade, who acted as guide and mentor of the conference sessions, declared: "The problem of peace is the problem of racism."

Another delegate stated: "This is a white supremacist war. . . . The white people of America are conditioned to go along with it, are brutalized when they can see brutality against Negroes and not protest."

The participants, church people, union people, men, women, teenagers, took the following actions:

- They pledged to step up the campaign and add 100,000 more Michigan names by July 4 to petitions for a five-power peace pact.

- They agreed to petition the U. S. government to stop the re-arming of Nazis in the western European army, and instead to join with Britain, France and the Soviet Union for a pact with a unified, democratic, peaceful Germany.

- They expressed their solidarity with the African people's resistance to "Malamazim," and urged cessation of U. S. aid to the racist government of South Africa.

- They demanded an immediate cease fire in Korea, complete repatriation of all prisoners of war, and immediate ratification of the Geneva Protocol barring germ warfare.

- They called for repeal of the Smith Act (passage of Sabbath resolution HR 7493), the Trucks thought control bill, Taft-Hartley and McCarran Acts and defeat of the new anti-labor Smith bill.

- They exposed the huge corporation war profits and the lowered living standards of the working people, and urged that the 85 percent of taxes now devoted to war should go to peaceful projects.

- They protested propaganda in

the schools "designed to brutalize and militarize our youth."

- They pointed to world trade and peace as the best answer to those who fear that a depression is the only alternative to war, hot or cold.

- They stressed that peace must be the platform of any candidate who seeks the people's support.

One high point was a report by Edith Van Horn, auto unionist, on labor's stake in the fight for peace.

The "payoff for the hoax of Russian aggression," Miss Van Horn said, can be seen in the rise of corporation profits from \$6.5 billion in 1939 to \$29.1 billion in 1943 to \$44.5 billion last year. Profits per employee in manufacturing rose from \$410 annually in 1939 to \$1,796 in 1951, according to the Survey of Current Business.

Meanwhile the average wage earned paid \$1,000 last year, working one out of every three days "for death and destruction," while

his wages are frozen to the "phony BLS index," unemployment grows more critical, speedup mounts, the 1939 food dollar is worth 34 cents and trade union are subject to attack from legislation like the Taft-Hartley and Trucks Acts, from the Un-American Committee, from runaway shop tactics.

Miss Van Horn saw hopeful signs of developing labor opposition to this trend at the Amalgamated, Steel, Textile, Fur and Packing conventions. She outlined the need for greater independent labor political action on a peace program, for greater concern with foreign policy and especially the possibilities of foreign trade highlighted by the Moscow economic conference, and for a program to use the workers' hard earned tax dollar for beneficial public projects like housing and schools.

Mrs. Edna Nielsen of St. Joseph, whose peace-crusader husband is seeking the Republican nomination for Congress in opposition to war-

The Housing Swindle

(Continued from Page 1)
house 2,500 families paying "co-operative" rentals of \$21 a room and "straight" rents at \$30 a room; and the International Ladies Garment Workers Union Corlears Hook development on the Lower East Side providing "cooperative" rents at \$16 to \$17 a room per month.

Including Manhattanville and similar "cooperative" project proposals, these four housing plans are part of a vast, long-conspired and carefully-worked out realty grab by banks, insurance companies, investment firms, big realty interests, and rightwing treasury-swollen union landlords, all abetted by federal and local governments.

LINKS IN CHAIN

They are links in a chain enslaving millions of poor workers, especially Negro and Puerto Rican families, to dungeon existence and rent-gouge exploitation. On the face of it, it seems paradoxical. Why should "slum-clearance" and "cooperative" housing be an attack on housing standards of low-income workers? Aren't new projects, clean, fresh, modern home environments better than the housing conditions they replace?

Of course, but not the kind of housing that the Wall Street landlords are plotting. For in the answer to these questions lies the key to the vast war-profit scandal of monopolist realtors and the long-range conspiracy to wreck low-rent projects, rent control and slum-clearance.

Under the false banner of "slum clearance" the profit-hungry landlords are using Title I of the Fed-

eral Housing Act to buy up government-cleared lands at ridiculously low prices and then to erect high-rent apartments in low-income communities.

MANHATTAN

This gigantic housing swindle, stealing hundreds of millions of public tax funds for realty trust investments, is forcing Negro and Puerto Rican families deeper and deeper into slums, choking hundreds of thousands of bare-sub-sistence wage earners into apartments far above their ability to pay, creating vast dislocation of families, establishing new ghettos and jimcrow walls, piling segregation on top of segregation, and steamrolling to the biggest public crisis ever seen in New York City.

The main arena for the realty conspirators at the moment is Manhattan. Here is the most concentrated population, the highest land value, the biggest commercial and industrial assessments, the richest stores, the best communications—here is Wall Street and Macy's and the heart of land wealth of the billionaire corporations in New York City. It is in Manhattan that the Manhattan-villes, the Manhattantowns, the Stuyvesant Towns, the Harlems, and the Knickerbocker Villages, are undergoing the "great" experiment.

From Corlears Hook at the tip of the island to Parkchester near Pelham Bay the schemers are ringing millions of working class families with swank highways, intricate arterial networks, luxurious east and west riverfront drives and parks; slashing through the poor districts with "middle rent" projects; planting elms where houses used to be; suddenly becoming "park conscious" in hitherto slum communities; creating, in other words, an island free of the eye-sores that could trouble the rich.

But what happens to the workers? Where do the Negro people go? What about the doubled-up, tripled-up Puerto Ricans? What is the fate of the East Side Jewish garment workers, the Irish longshoremen in Chelsea, the Italian family on Mulberry and Bleeker Sts., the German-American worker in Yorkville?

After the highways, the parks, the trees, the lush greenery, the new, clean vistas for apartment-dwellers in high-rent homes—what about the families who were dispossessed, evicted, torn up from their homes and communities, driven to new and worse slums?

The answer is seen in the overwhelming misery of the city's teeming low-income communities. It is seen in the tremendous disproportion between the estimated 9,000 new low-cost public apartments for 1952 and the HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS of applications on file at the City Housing Authority. It is seen in the swift pauperization of "middle-income" families who cannot pay "middle-rent" demands and who are ineligible for low-rent projects. It is seen in the spiraling rents in decrepit, old-law tenements jam-packed by an influx of dispossessed families from public and "cooperative" housing sites elsewhere.

The landlords are reaping a double harvest. On the one hand they are making exorbitant profits from the jacked up, service-less rents imposed on tenants that either take the available "out of reach" apartments or live in the streets, and from the bonanza of \$30, \$40 and \$50 a room per month "middle-rent" projects, further enhanced by the tax-exemption, under-assessed land-grabs of government-cleared sites.

Added to that are the wholesale evasions of the state rent control law and the bypassing of state limitations for investment profits to 4 percent of the original construction costs.

(The third article in the series tomorrow.)

FURNITURE WORKERS DEFEAT GOONS, INJUNCTION, WIN SEVEN-WEEK STRIKE

Three hundred and fifty Eng-lander workers in the New York plant, under the leadership of Local 140, CIO Furniture Workers, have won a smashing victory after seven-week strike. The settlement is a 15 cents per hour package, including a general increase of 10 cents per hour, 1 percent additional contribution to the pension and welfare benefits making a total of 6 percent. Minimums have been increased by 10 cents per hour; two weeks vacation after three years and 70 additional

workers are to receive three weeks' vacation.

In the seven weeks of strike, the company made every effort to break it. An anti-picketing injunction was secured from the courts. Next, the leaders of the union were charged with contempt for breaking through the injunction. Nevertheless, the Union succeeded in completely tying up the operations of the company in this area.

Included in the campaign were picket lines in front of every department store in New York which sells Englander products and picket lines in front of the New Jersey stores. One hundred thousand leaflets were distributed to the buying public. Flying squads were sent to Philadelphia, Boston and Baltimore where organization got under way. A convoy of twenty-five cars decorated with huge signs saying "Englander on Strike—DON'T Buy Their Products" put on a great show during the May Day parade in New York.

In the sixth week of the strike, the company made its last desperate move with a red-baiting campaign. A few stooges tried to circulate cards for a strike-breaking fake AFL union.

On May 6, came the last desperate step. Fifty gangsters and goons from the waterfront mobs made an attempt to break the picket line. They made two at-

saults on the line and were completely beaten back by the workers. The next morning the entire local was on the picket lines and the lines remained untouched.

The company's strikebreaking hopes were smashed . . . and negotiations began.

The workers in Englander include white and Negro workers, foreign and native born: Italian, Jewish, Puerto Rican, Polish and every other nationality you find in our country. They include workers of all political beliefs—Democrats, Republicans, Communists, Socialists, American Labor Party.

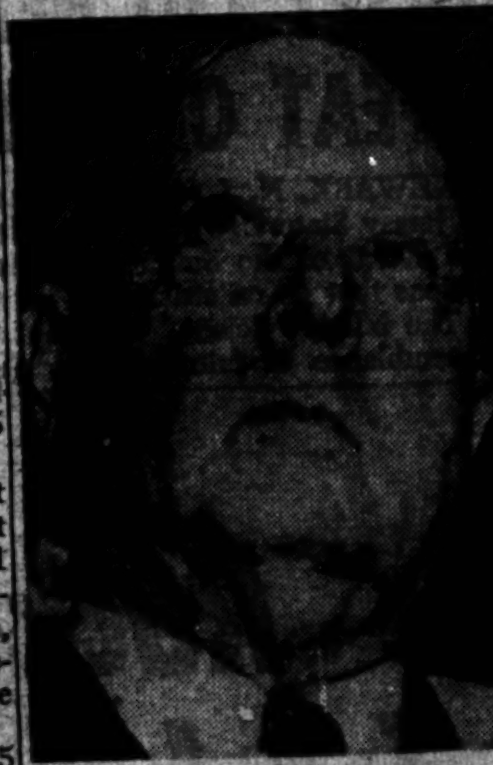
All were welded into one solid fighting unity. The bosses' attempts to red-bait fell flat and were exposed. At the shop meeting where the settlement was voted on, a tribute was paid to the strike committee.

The entire local membership threw their full support behind the strikers. At an enthusiastic membership meeting the members voted to assist themselves every week as long as the strike would last in support of the Englander workers. They turned out in large numbers on the picket line.

Alex Sirots, manager of Local 140, said . . . "Let this victory serve notice on every anti-labor employer. When you touch the workers in our union, you are playing with a buzz saw."

There already have been results in other shops. The workers in Burton Dixie have joined Local 140 (an election will be held within the next several weeks). The boss in Burton Dixie and U. S. Cabinet were forced to give a ten cent increase to their workers the day after the settlement was reached. Local 140 is planning to complete organization of Burton Dixie and U. S. Cabinet and then move forward to the fight for a 35 hour week.

"The spirit of labor solidarity and militancy is at its peak. We are ready to move forward to new victories."



ROBERT MORSS LOVETT

Report June 5 On World Parley On Children

Americans who have just returned from the International Conference in Defense of Children, held in Vienna last month, will be the principal speakers June 5 at The Pythian in New York!

The U.S. press had black-out all news of this conference, at which 500 men and women of 61 nations heard reports of the impact of the war on the health, educational, moral and cultural development of the children of the world.

Admission to the meeting is 75 cents.

Name Lovett Progressive Candidate for Governor

CHICAGO.—Robert Morss Lovett, outstanding peace and civil rights leader, was named this week as the Progressive Party's candidate for Governor of Illinois. The party's nominating committee, set up by the recent statewide membership meeting,

announced the following additional names on its state ticket:

Joseph Larynette for Lieutenant-Governor.

Norman Nebenzahl for Secretary of State.

Irving Meyers for Attorney General.

Marion Caffaris for State Treasurer.

Lola Belle Holmes for Auditor of Public Accounts.

For Trustees of the University of Illinois: Lillian E. Frost, Marjorie Kelley and Florence Cowgell.

About Earl Conrad's Book

By LLOYD L. BROWN

Associate Editor, Masses & Mainstream

A couple of months ago Earl Conrad phoned me at Masses & Mainstream, asking me to read the galley proofs of his new book. He respected, he said, my literary judgment, and was anxious to get my opinion.

I did not know then (and Conrad didn't bother to tell me) that the day before he called me, a group of Negro women, leading progressives, had sharply denounced the book in a discussion with him.

I read Rock Bottom, and wrote the author the following letter:

March 3, 1952

"Dear Earl Conrad:

"I have been thinking over our phone conversation of this morning and your question: Will the book have a positive effect by exposing the horrors of Negro oppression to white Americans?"

"Well it seems to me that for Americans generally there are three basic questions relating to the Negro question in our country:

"1. Are the Negro people oppressed?"

"2. Should they be oppressed?"

"3. If they are, what should be done about it?"

"Now I will grant that insofar as your book is concerned the last question is (except by implication) outside the scope of the work. But I would insist that the first two are inseparable. No judgment of the fact of oppression can properly be considered without a presentation of the quality of the oppressed, i.e., the character and make-up of the Negro people.

"People can be agitated about the abuse of animals; but when all of the cruelty has been deplored, the conclusion will remain: these are still animals.

"But Negro oppression cannot be truly protested unless the Negro people are seen and understood as being human, with all of the attributes of humanity. The real horror of treating a Negro like a dog is that he is a man. This truth was understood over a century ago by both the Negro and white abolitionists: the slave narratives (Douglass, and others) and the white writers (Mrs. Stowe and others) not only depicted the brutal facts of slavery, but also the nature of the slaves.

"Now you might point to the document We Charge Genocide! which limits itself to an indictment based upon factual evidence as a parallel to your book. But it is not. Your work not only sets out to show the oppression, but inevitably, because you are dealing with people, it gives a picture of what the oppressed are like.

"The picture is a false one and it is for this reason that Negro people will not like it. It is false, not in some sense of not-quite-accurate, but because it emerges as the picture of the Negro as seen by his oppressors. And worse: this depiction of the Negro people as a dehumanized mass is used to justify continued oppression.

"Most white readers, perhaps, will not be shocked by this picture you present: it fits in with all their prejudices (Negroes are immoral, dangerous, criminal, debased, etc.). You do have at the end of various chapters an 'explanation' of why this is so; but this seems only to compound the wrong in my opinion.

"For all practical purposes—and especially in our day—I can see no basic difference between the Bourbon formulation ('The Negro is kept down because he is inferior') and the liberal, Myrdalian formulation ('The Negro is inferior because he is kept down').

"So, to come back to the opening question, I would say that since the picture of the Negro people is false and distorted (both by selection and omission) in your book, the work will have a harmful effect upon white readers. Indeed the fact that it is presented ostensibly from the Negro viewpoint will only serve to heighten the damage.

"One typical scene seems to epit-

omize the whole in my mind. A Negro is forced by the brutal bossman to eat his own feces. He does so. The other Negroes applaud (because the eater is a stooge). What effect can this have upon the reader? Shock, yes. But more: revulsion against boss, eater and the other Negroes. And of them all, least, I think, against the boss.

"You asked me if the total work could be altered by incidental changes, and I said I was sure it couldn't. You didn't ask me my opinion on whether you should withdraw it; but surely you must see from the foregoing that I would say you should."

No answer came. I expected none, for in the phone conversation mentioned in my letter Conrad told me very plainly that he was not particularly concerned whether Negroes liked the book or not; 24 out of every 25 readers, he said, would be white. Some "white progressives" had

liked the book, he said, and hence it would probably be "controversial."

Now here is a frank question to all progressives. Can a depraved book that depicts the Negro people as "garbage," "rats," and among us? Can people who are civilized, much less progressive, "take sides" about this unspeakable assault on Negro womanhood?

I say that if the promoters of Rock Bottom manage to create a "controversial" division on this fundamental issue of human decency, then the class enemy will have made a breakthrough in his drive to divide white progressives from the Negro people. But I cannot believe this will happen.

I am sure that no true friend of the Negro people will agree with Conrad that it doesn't matter what Negroes, and Negro women in particular, think about his slanderous book.

WHITE SUPREMACIST NOVEL REVIVED IN SOUTH SEA FILM

By BEN LEVINE

There was a sea captain, in the days of sailing ships, who found a secret route from Singapore to a South Sea island. This gave him a trading monopoly that made him rich and brought prosperity to the happy inhabitants of the island. But a viper crept into this paradise—a young scoundrel who wormed the captain's secret out of him, and brought ruin on himself and on the island.

This is the story of "Outcast of the Islands," a London Films presentation now running at the Fine Arts Theatre on 58 St. It is taken from a tale by Joseph Conrad.

Joseph Conrad had a certain vogue about 40 years ago. His ponderous prose and purple passages were hailed as profound psychology.

If the present film has any merit, it is that it helps us see clearly that the much-touted Joseph Conrad is nothing but a vulgar white supremacist. The South Sea people for him are nothing but a backdrop to the passions of the whites. The Malaysians are presented as lovable, child-like people who scramble for crumbs from

the white traders. Kerima, the beautiful, queenly daughter of the chief, has flashes of savage cruelty. The hero's love for her is painted as a mysterious witchery. Their marriage, it is hinted, is the cause of the final collapse of the hero's character.

The South Sea leader, who questions the sea captain's authority and schemes to break his trade monopoly, is depicted as a sinister character. This sinister character by the way, says the only interesting line we heard that evening: "Who is the white man to tell us what is good for us?"

Too bad that excellent photography and acting and directing (the last by Carol Reed) should be used for imperialist propaganda.

There was a short on the same bill concerning Toulouse-Lautrec, 19th century artist who painted the decadent part of the Parisian society of his day. The story of this crippled, ugly scion of an old South French family, narrated by Conrad Nagel, served to explain the work of this painter, whose brush faithfully reflected an environment of which he was so completely a part and beyond whose level he could not rise.

MUSIC, DRAMA WEDNESDAY WILL BRING PEACE MESSAGE

A rich and entertaining program has been prepared for the Peace Festival at St. Nicholas Arena this Wednesday night. The message of peace will be dramatized as a tabloid with musical background.

The script was prepared by Yvonne Gregory.

Julian Mayfield and Michael Lewis are co-directors with Joseph Sanders as producer.

The Festival is sponsored by the American Peace Crusade and N.Y. Peace Institute.

Pablo Neruda's prize winning poem, "Let The Railplitter Awake" will be read by actor Lloyd Gough.

There will be a dramatic portrayal by Lorraine Hansberry, actress and poet, who was a delegate at the Montevideo Intercontinental Peace Congress.

The Negro actor Maxville Glanville will be in the program.

There will be an extravaganza with four choral groups in a spectacular "Mothers' Peace Cantata" composed by Rayna Havim, who was with the Federation Populaire de Musique (Paris). Nadyne Brewer, soprano, will have a leading part in the cantata.

There will be dances from the Far East, with native costumes. The

delicate and sensitive dances of India and China will be presented by Gina and Chai Li Chee.

There will be dances by the Ukrainian American Dnipro group. American square and Israeli dances will be performed by members of the New York Dance Workshop.

The folk singer Martha Schlamme will also perform.

The entire program will be highlighted by the people's yearning for peace—the desire for a five-power peace pact.

The tickets are \$1.20 and \$1.80 with some at \$2.40. They are available at the American Peace Crusade, 125 W. 72 St., N. Y. Peace Institute, 111 W. 42 St., and at the Jefferson Bookshop and Bookfair.

Two Plays

The Howard Da Silva-Brett Warren Acting Classes announce the performance of two plays with the students of the school, "Fortunato," by the Quintero Brothers, and an act of "The Inheritors" by Susan Glaspell, June 4-6 at Yugoslav-American Hall.



on the scoreboard

By lester rodney

RALPH CRANE, a keen follower of the chess scene, not one of our strong points, takes it over today with a discussion of just who is champion and why.

By RALPH CRANE

FORMER U. S. CHESS CHAMPION Samuel Reshevsky (CCNY student Larry Evans defeated him in the 1951 U. S. championship) is back in New York, claiming the title "chess champion of the non-Communist world," because of a victory over Miguel Najdorf (Argentina). In New York, where Reshevsky won six games and drew the other two, he admitted that "undoubtedly Najdorf is not playing in his usual form." But the "Chess Review" (New York privately owned monthly) on the strength of this New York showing hailed Reshevsky on its May issue cover as the "Miracle Match Player."

In Mexico City, Reshevsky drew two and lost three, coming up with a silly alibi about the high altitude, for, if the altitude made any difference, his opponent was as unaccustomed to it as he was. In San Salvador, Reshevsky won two and lost one.

International chess is governed by the International Chess Federation (the U. S. Chess Federation being a part of it) on the basis of a well established rating system which determines entries to the Zonal and Interzonal preliminary tournaments.

But the real plot goes back further. In a speech at Wertheim Memorial Tournament (New York) on June 3, 1951, Mr. Al Bisno, Manhattan Chess Club chairman, stated that "the free world must soon have a chess champion of its own, now that a large part of the world is shut off from international relations." And so the Najdorf-Reshevsky match was arranged. Mr. Bisno is a real estate promoter. In 1951, with some other wealthy backers, he proceeded to promote Reshevsky with the World Championship as the goal. Reshevsky, an accountant, could now devote himself entirely to chess. Former World Chess Champion Dr. Max Euwe (Holland) wrote in the September, 1951, "Chess Review": "American officials are resolved that Reshevsky should never again be excluded—for whatever reason—from the Candidates' Tournament. There are two chief possibilities: either holding the Candidates' Tournament in the Western Hemisphere, or else staging a special World Championship contest of the Western Hemisphere."

This means splitting the international unity of the chess world, at a time when Soviet participation in the coming Olympics makes them more international than ever before.

To cap the climax, a New York Times editorial on May 18 headed "Salute to a Master" brazenly asserts that Reshevsky's convincing victory over Najdorf of Argentina clearly entitles Reshevsky to the title of chess champion of the free world. The large margin of victory achieved in this match throws further doubt on the validity of Mikhail Botvinnik's claim to be world chess champion, for Reshevsky did not participate in the latest competition. A Botvinnik-Reshevsky match would clear up doubts on the matter and provide one type of Soviet-American conflict that all people could welcome.

That the "chess hope" of the "free world" was unable to participate in the 1951 Challengers' Round in no way vitiates Botvinnik's clear title to his world chess crown, won across the chess board in 1948 and successfully defended in 1951. The New York Times' proposal is arrogant and anti-democratic. Reshevsky could have participated in 1951, but didn't. In 1948, both Reuben Fine and Reshevsky were named by the International Chess Federation to compete, along with Euwe (Holland) and Botvinnik, Keres and Smyslov (USSR). Fine did not attend; Reshevsky did. Each player played each other five games. Boevinnik won, becoming World Champion; Reshevsky tied with Keres for third and fourth places. Scoring five points for games won, the score stood: Botvinnik, 70 points; Smyslov, 66; Reshevsky and Keres, 52.5; and Dr. Euwe, 20. Botvinnik won 10 games, drew 8 and lost 2; Reshevsky won only 6, drew 9 and lost 5. Botvinnik won 3 from Reshevsky, lost 1 and drew 1. The New York Times' doubt about Botvinnik's claim to the world chess title is absolutely without foundation.

Harold M. Phillips, president of the USCF, also vice-president of the international body, has just named Mrs. Mary Bain, U. S. Women's Champion, to take part in the Women's World Chess Tournament to be held this year in the USSR from October 20 to November 20. The appointment was made, since the zone tournament slated for last year was not held. U. S. chess does take part in international tournaments.

Why has not President Phillips condemned the splitting of the international chess world? Or is U. S. chess run by a group of business promoters headed by Mr. Al Bisno? Why has not the "Chess Review" spoken out against it? Or do they also approve this crime against internationalism in sports?

Odds and Ends . . .

HANK SAUER of the Cubs, who has hit 8 homers to date, is also hitting those outside pitches to right for run-delivering base hits, a change from past years and one of the big reasons for the Cubs' early showing. This is what Gil Hodges hasn't mastered yet. . . . Many of the expelled West Point "cribbers" will turn up as football stars on various schools this fall.

U. S. OLYMPIC track coach Brutus Hamilton, observing some of the recent competition, thinks our chances of winning the 400, broad jump and discus are exceptionally good. Ollie Matson, San Francisco U.S. great football star, has run the 440 in 46.9 and may do better. George Brown of UCLA broadjumped 26 feet, 2 inches in the West Coast relays, which would probably be good for victory, and Fortune Gordien, Dick Doyle and Sam Iness are hitting around 170 feet every meet with the discus.

READER LS of Brooklyn—Would like to answer your letter but you sent no address.

BIG BASEBALL DOINGS

MONDAY NIGHT—The Dodgers and the Giants at the Polo Grounds—at last.

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'16' Ask Court to Strike Out Testimony Of Stoolie Budenz, Charge Perjury

(Reprinted from late edition of The Worker)

By HARRY RAYMOND

"I do not think in the annals of our jurisprudence any man has committed as many perjuries as Budenz," Frank Serri, defense attorney in the trial of the 16 New York Communists, told Federal Judge Edward J. Dimock Friday.

Serri made this observation as he concluded argument supporting a defense motion to strike out 13 days of testimony by Louis F. Budenz, first government witness.

Judge Dimock reserved decision after hearing additional argument by defense lawyers Mary Kaufman, James Wright and John T. McTernan. Assistant Prosecutor Roy M. Cohn argued that Budenz, who was denounced in the Senate as a purveyor of false testimony, was a "competent witness." Cohn said it was up to the jury to judge Budenz's "credibility."

Serri told the court Budenz was a "completely discredited witness." He reminded Judge Dimock that four Supreme Court justices had declared the Smith Act, under which the 16 are being tried, to

be an "unwise act."

Serri said that in acting on the defense motion, the court should consider how far the Budenz story went to "inject confusion and prejudice in the trial." "How far," he asked, "does it go to throw the trial out of focus?"

The "focus," Serri said, should be on the alleged "conspiracy in early spring, 1945," and "any story that gets the mind of the jury off that charge muddies the water, confuses the jury."

He cited as an example testimony of Budenz alleging defendant Alexander Bittelman said in 1937 that the great ovations Stalin received in Moscow two years earlier "indicated his leadership."

"Is there any earthly reason to question the leadership of Stalin?" Serri asked. "Does that show what these 16 people intended to do in 1945? It's worthless, absolutely zero."

Serri pointed to the Budenz story about the Bolshevik Revolution in Russia and three documentary exhibits on that subject introduced by the prosecution. He said:

"What has that to do with the issue of conspiracy in 1945? The Russian Revolution was dragged in by the tail. The jury then heard: 'Revolution, revolution, revolution.' The jury was thinking in those first two weeks of the Russian Revolution, not of the conspiracy charged."

The lawyer asked where was there proof of "conspiracy" in Budenz's testimony through his showing a "political party holds a convention, adopts a resolution and a constitution."

"I am not an expert on Marxism-Leninism," Serri added. "But I know enough that Budenz uttered nonsense when he said Marxism-Leninism means force and violence."

Mrs. Kaufman asked the court to strike out all the Budenz testimony concerning alleged acts and statements of the defendants prior to the 1945-1952 period covered by the indictment.

"A good part of the testimony was about what a defendant was alleged to have said or what book he approved 20 years ago," she told the court. "To go back 20 years to show the alleged intent of the defendants 20 years later is an act on the part of the Government to create prejudice and, as Mr. Serri said, confusion."

She said the Budenz testimony was offered on the theory of "guilt by association of the defendants in the Communist Party."

Attorney Wright reminded the court that the prosecution "unequivocally denied" it had offered Budenz as an expert witness. But, he said, Budenz had actually been presented as an "expert" without qualifying as such, "drawing conclusions from alleged statements of defendants, from books and documents."

"The jury is capable of drawing conclusions from documents and requires no interpretations by the witness," Wright said. He was referring to Budenz's fabrication that Marxist-Leninist documents are written in "Aesopian" language as "window dressing" to cover "advocacy of force and violence."

Attorney McTernan argued any alleged statements attributed by the witness to the defendants prior to adoption of the Smith Act in 1940 could not be properly considered

as evidence.

Cohn replied that arguments of defense counsel in this case were also made in the 1949 Smith Act trial, at which Eugene Dennis and 10, other national leaders of the Communist Party were convicted and sentenced to prison. He urged the judge to use decisions of that trial as a guide here.

Judge Dimock admitted he had not only followed the Dennis case carefully, but that he had been "more liberal in permitting prior (to conspiracy) statements of third parties" to be admitted as government evidence.

The judge said, however, there was the question about admissibility of so-called prior declarations of the defendants.

"That goes to intent," Cohn replied. "These declarations (made prior to 1945) were passed on in the Dennis case."

"But what about the idea of the conspiracy existing before 1945?" the judge asked.

"I don't think there is any question about the conspiracy existing before 1945," declared the government lawyer.

"I would like to have some light to show how his conspiracy existed," Judge Dimock remarked. "Is it claimed they were confederated

together in the top echelons of the Communist Party?"

Cohn replied that by following the method used by the prosecution in the Dennis case he would show that.

"As I have been going along I have been expecting some showing of this conspiracy," said the judge.

Cohn replied: "Budenz was our first witness. We will show that with other witnesses."

"Judges of the appellate courts have warned time and time again against receiving evidence subject to connection then never having it connected," McTernan said.

He pointed to Budenz's testimony on what the witness claimed "initiates" in the Communist Party understood documents and resolutions to mean.

"The use of the word 'initiates' in no way was connected with these defendants," he argued. "Either the Government proves this is the understanding of the defendants or it proves nothing."

Following the argument, Judge Dimock recessed the case until Monday morning, 10:30. The trial is scheduled to continue then in courtroom 10, with the Government's second witness, John Lautner, a professional anti-labor informer, on the stand.

Walter White Warns Demos On Phony FEPC

A compromise on a compulsory FEPC in the Democratic Party platform will cause "widespread repercussions among Negroes and other liberal voters," Walter White, executive secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, has warned Frank McKinney, chairman of the National Democratic Committee.

Prompted by recurrent reports that McKinney is seeking to "tone down the 1948 plank on civil rights" through elimination of specific reference to FEPC and other measures, White wrote the Democratic leader, declaring that Negroes "are gravely disturbed" by these reports.

Representatives of a score of national Negro organizations who met recently in New York agreed, white said in his letter, that such a compromise "would not receive the support of Negro voters or of a considerable number of other liberal voters who are concerned about this fundamental issue."

"In light of this unanimous agreement," the NAACP executive continued, "the reports from Chicago that you would lend your support to proposals to tone down the 1948 position of the Democratic Party is most shocking."

Strikers Hit Columbia River Lumber Pact

PORTLAND, May 25.—An agreement rejected as "substandard" by three CIO International Woodworkers district councils has been secretly signed by the Columbia River District Council with Columbia Basin operators, it was learned here.

The settlement leaves health and welfare payments deducted by employers from wages.

The Boommen's District Council has rejected the settlement and announced its members will not return to work.

The agreement has also been rejected by Districts 2 and 3, in Northern and Southwest Washington. The Aberdeen Local of District 3, at its largest membership meeting since 1935, unanimously turned down the settlement.

Hits Kidnapping Of Ferd. Smith By US Officials

(Reprinted from late edition of The Worker)

By ART SHIELDS

"The U. S. Government is adding kidnapping to genocide," said William L. Patterson, Civil Rights Congress leader, in commenting in the Wednesday night seizure of Ferdinand C. Smith, secretary of the World Federation of Trade Unions, at the Idlewild airport.

Smith—former Secretary of the National Maritime Union, and a world-respected Negro leader—is still imprisoned in the Ellis Island concentration camp. He is held incommunicado, pending deportation to Jamaica next Tuesday. He is not even allowed to see or telephone to the attorneys of the American Committee for the Protection of Foreign Born.

"This is outrageous," said Patterson. "Smith was snatched from the airport as he was stepping from one British Overseas Airway to another on his way from Jamaica to London. This is an international airport. He was not visiting the U. S. He was simply in transit."

Passengers barred from visiting the U. S. are not interfered with in such cases," said Patterson. "They simply remain in the custody of the airways company until the transfer is completed."

"Smith was kidnapped, however, because the immigration officials want to interfere with the World Federation of Trade Unions' work for the oppressed colonial people, whom Smith represents."

The kidnapping is a plain violation of the UN declaration of human rights, Patterson added.

"Smith was publicly honored by President Roosevelt for his splendid work in uniting Negro and white workers during the war," Patterson pointed out.

"He was also honored by admirals for his work in helping to keep the ships sailing through the Nazis' submarine blockade."

"But he was honored most of all by the working people."

What's On?

Tonight Manhattan

VEITS FOR PEACE present Gerald Haggberg discussing Germany today, Monday, May 26, 8:30 p.m. at 257 Seventh Ave.

THE NEW ISRAEL
STANLEY FINE

USSR Renews Bid for German Treaty; Acheson Snubs French Fear of Nazis

Daily Worker

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POW's Mother Here in Tour To Rouse People for Peace

A quiet-voiced, graying American mother was out in the drenching New York rain yesterday, going from one newspaper office to another, trying to tell editors why this country has to make peace in Korea. Mrs. Paul Schnur of San Francisco has her own personal stake in peace—her son Pfc. Paul, Jr., a recipient of the Bronze Star, has been a prisoner of war in Korea since Nov. 30, 1950. But it is not for herself alone, but for all the mothers of America that she has made the long trip (her first) to New York from her home.

Today (Monday) she will visit the United Nations and seek an audience with secretary-general Trygve Lie, and with Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, U. S. delegate to the UN's Human Rights Commission.

Mrs. Schnur will show to them what she considers to be a document of very great importance for every American—a document which she has asked New York's biggest newspapers and press associations to make public to their

readers.

The document, written in blue ink on rice paper, somewhere in North Korea, was signed by 92 American and British prisoners of war. It was received only last week by Mr. and Mrs. Schnur from their son, one of the signers of this "open letter to the American public."

"We the undersigned," it begins, "American and British prisoners of war who have seen the suffering and destruction of war, wish to make known our desire for an early settlement and an end to the Korean conflict."

And, the appeal continues:

"Recently we heard that both sides in the fighting had downed arms only to resume hostilities

again, on the orders of the President who gave as one reason the safety of the prisoners of war being held by the enemy.

"How, may we ask, does continuation of slaughter at the front ensure our safety? On the contrary, we do not feel safe at all. Air battles are continually being fought above our camp and we are filled with fear every time the alert is sounded and planes come over."

"We would like to inquire also," the statement continues, "as to what is to be accomplished by continued fighting after agreement has already been made on the cease-fire line? Must killing and destruction go on merely for the sake of killing and destruction?"

"We ask, you, as American citizens, loyal to American traditions, to do all in your power to secure the issuance of a final official cease-fire order that will enable all of us to return to our homes where we are entitled to pursue happiness and live out our lives as useful citizens."

HAVING RECEIVED a cold reception at the Associated Press (where she was told POW's pleas for peace are "controversial" and can't be printed) and having visited the Times, Tribune and other papers, Mrs. Schnur spoke to this newspaper yesterday afternoon.

"There's either going to be peace or full-scale war," she said, "and there isn't much time."

She expressed great concern that the U. S. government's refusal to approve the release of all prisoners on both sides in the Korean

(Continued on Page 6)

To Dramatize Koje POW Issue In Great Festival for Peace

Widespread public concern over the serious turn of events in Korea over the POW issue which is blocking a truce gives the coming Wednesday night Peace Festival at St. Nicholas Arena a special meaning, its sponsors said yesterday.

With top Washington circles warning of the possibility of spreading the war in Asia, the Peace Festival will see New Yorkers gathering to celebrate the brotherhood of the arts, and to raise their voices for a Korea peace.

Negro and white stage, screen and TV stars will appear in "Stars of Peace," a dramatic presentation which will protest the Koje Island prisoner of war scandal and urge peace in Korea and a five-power pact. The peace festival is jointly sponsored by the American Peace Crusade and the New York Institute for Peace.

In connection with the POW issue blocking peace, the sponsors applauded the statement made by Indian Prime Minister Nehru in which he declared: "... It does seem a tragedy that the future of peace or war, not only in the Far East but in the whole world, should hang on one issue—the exchange of prisoners."

Among those who will appear in "Stars of Peace" will be screen actor Lloyd Cough, poet Beulah Richardson, singer Nadyne Brewer, stage actor Maxwell Glanville, stage actress Milroy Ingram, TV actress Adelaide Bean, Chinese dancer Chai Li Chee, Indian dancer Gina, Unity and Queens Chorus, and New York Dance Workshop.

Taking its keynote from Earl Robinson's "Spring Song" phrase:

"Oh, is that a time for dying in the spring, for women to be crying in the spring," the dramatic presentation will depict typical reactions of American Negroes and whites, soldiers and civilians, parents and children, men and women to the Korean war this spring.

The original script was written by Yvonne Gregory, former "Ebony" staff writer. Produced by Joseph Sander, "Stars for Peace" will be directed by Julian Mayfield and Michael Lewin.

"Stars for Peace" will mark the premiere of a special peace cantata, entitled "Mothers of Peace," written for the occasion by Rayna Hayim.

THE HOUSING SWINDLE

The 'Slum Clearance' Racket; A Double Harvest for Landlords

By MICHAEL SINGER

(Second of a series)

Every day one of the most bitter, relentless and widespread sagas of New York City's working class is being unfolded at City Hall, before state rent control offices, in long hopeless lines at realty offices, in grim emergency meetings at tenant committee headquarters. It is the story of

unavailable homes, disappearing low-rent apartments, the nightmare of mounting rent gouges and soaring evictions.

Within the next few weeks this struggle will reach a climax of new tenant battles against a concerted landlord offensive never equaled in its ferocious disregard of the barest subsistence and shelter needs of millions of wage-ear-

ers, low-income families, desperate fixed-income white collar and civil service employees, and particularly, the worst-housed, most-exploited, least-aided sections of New York—the Negro and Puerto Rican peoples.

The Board of Estimate plans swift action on plans to build four new "slum-clearance" projects: a 1,296 dwelling unit from West

139 St. and Lenox Ave. to West 143 St. and Lenox Ave.; a \$30-a-room per month project of 1,105 units bounded by West 135 St., Fifth Ave., West 132 St. and Lenox Ave.; Manhattan town (to be known as West Park) from West 97 St. to West 100 St. and including Columbus Ave., Amsterdam Ave. and Central Park West to

(Continued on Page 2)

With the French government showing a last-minute panic at the Acheson-Eisenhower plan to arm a new Nazi army on its borders, Secretary Acheson pushed ahead yesterday to get the signatures on his "contract" for a new Wehrmacht war machine.

At the last moment, with practically all of West Europe dreading the Washington-backed revival of the Hitler militarists, the Soviet Union made one more effort to get a peaceful around-the-table settlement of the German question.

According to the press reports which late yesterday had not yet given more than the most meager facts about the latest Soviet peace proposal, the Soviet note again urged a Big Four conference. The note also declared that the Acheson-Eisenhower plan for a new Wehrmacht headed by Hitler's generals "imposes upon the German people the necessity of seeking their own way toward a peace treaty and national unification."

URGE CONFERENCE

In previous notes to Washington, London and Paris, Moscow proposed a peace conference to sign a peace treaty with Germany providing for all-German elections, for a policy of neutrality guaranteed by the Big Four, for withdrawal of all occupying armies, and for the restoration of Germany's peacetime economy, with the right to have national defense forces under Big Four supervision.

Washington has been alarmed by the widespread support in Germany for these proposals. Acheson rushed to Bonn to force through the signatures in order to face the wide German opposition in the Bundestag with an accomplished fact.

On Friday, the Socialist Party leader, Kurt Schumacher, said that anyone signing the pact "could no longer be considered a German." The Paris cabinet phoned Foreign Minister Robert Schuman over the weekend to get him to delay the "contract until French fears could be quieted."

The French ruling circles are frightened at the revival of their recent Nazi enemies, and have been frantically demanding "guarantees" against another Nazi attack. Washington has been unable to provide such guarantees, although rumors

Paris Editor Jailed for Peace Editorial

—See Page 3

have been coming thick and fast that the State Department would promise to treat its "ally" West Germany as an "aggressor" if it broke out of the "contract" with Washington. But this promise has angered the West German circles, even in the Bonn government, who see in it a permanent threat, and a weakening of their "equality."

Acheson shoved aside the French demands late yesterday for some new "guarantees." He also appeared, according to the press, to decide to pay no attention to the latest Moscow offer for a peace conference on the German issue.

Observers here warn that the ruthless trampling on the opposition to a new German fascist army will increase the danger of war in Europe. They also note the opposition to the Acheson-Eisenhower deal with the Nazis is so great that a new struggle is probably opening up in all the countries of Europe to prevent the parliamentary adoption or implementation of the new war alliance.

Scherer Off Critical List

Marcel Scherer is off the critical list, Mount Sinai Hospital announced yesterday. Scherer, executive secretary of the newly-organized New York Peace Institute and a veteran trade union and peace leader, collapsed several weeks ago while addressing a peace gathering.

Scherer's family yesterday thanked the many blood donors who had responded to the appeal made in his behalf. New Yorkers came through with a tremendous response, some 150 donating blood in two days.

JERSEY CIO HEAD URGES DEFEAT OF SMITH BILL

NEWARK, N. J., May 25.—Carl Holderman, president of the New Jersey State CIO, today in a letter to all Jersey Congressmen, urged defeat of the Smith Bill, providing for Government seizure of unions that go on strike.

The bill is "vicious," and "not one of its many provisions has any semblance of fairness" Holderman said.

RALLY TOMORROW AT HOTEL CAPITOL TO DEFEND FREE SPEECH

See Page 3

Michigan Peace Meet Stresses Labor Stake In Big 5 No-War Pact

DETROIT, May 25.—At the Michigan Peace Council's conference last weekend some 100 participants, Negro and white, from Detroit, Flint, St. Joseph, Ann Arbor, tackled the job of crystalizing the majority peace sentiment at a moment—as former State Sen. Stanley Nowak put it—when the turning point between war and peace is ominously near.

Rev. Willard Uphaus, co-chairman of the American Peace Crusade, who acted as guide and mentor of the conference sessions, declared: "The problem of peace is the problem of racism."

Another delegate stated: "This is a white supremacist war. . . . The white people of America are conditioned to go along with it, are brutalized when they can see brutality against Negroes and not protest."

The participants, church people, union people, men, women, teenagers, took the following actions:

- They pledged to step up the campaign and add 100,000 more Michigan names by July 4 to petitions for a five-power peace pact.

- They agree to petition the U. S. government to stop the re-arming of Nazis in the western European army, and instead to join with Britain, France and the Soviet Union for a pact with a unified, democratic, peaceful Germany.

- They expressed their solidarity with the African people's resistance to "Malanzism," and urged cessation of U. S. aid to the racist government of South Africa.

- They demanded an immediate cease fire in Korea, complete repatriation of all prisoners of war and immediate ratification of the Geneva Protocol barring germ warfare.

- They called for repeal of the Smith Act (passage of Sabbath resolution HR 7493), the Trucks thought control bill, Taft-Hartley and McCarran Acts and defeat of the new anti-labor Smith bill.

- They exposed the huge corporation war profits and the lowered living standards of the working people, and urged that the 85 percent of taxes now devoted to war should go to peaceful projects.

- They protested propaganda in

Report June 5 On World Parley On Children

Americans who have just returned from the International Conference in Defense of Children, held in Vienna last month, will be the principal speakers June 5 at The Pythian in New York!

The U. S. press had black-out all news of this conference, at which 500 men and women of 61 nations heard reports of the impact of the war on the health, educational, moral and cultural development of the children of the world.

Admission to the meeting is 75 cents.

the schools "designed to brutalize and militarize our youth."

- They pointed to world trade and peace as the best answer to those who fear that a depression is the only alternative to war, hot or cold.

- They stressed that peace must be the platform of any candidate who seeks the people's support.

One high point was a report by Edith Van Horn, auto unionist, on labor's stake in the fight for peace.

The "payoff for the hoax of Russian aggression," Miss Van Horn said, can be seen in the rise of corporation profits from \$6.5 billion in 1939 to \$29.1 billion in 1943 to \$44.5 billion last year. Profits per employee in manufacturing rose from \$410 annually in 1939 to \$1,796 in 1951, according to the Survey of Current Business.

Meanwhile the average wage earned paid \$1,000 last year, working one out of every three days "for death and destruction," while

his wages are frozen to the "phony BLS index," unemployment grows more critical, speedup mounts, the 1939 food dollar is worth 34 cents and trade union are subject to attack from legislation like the Taft-Hartley and Trucks Acts, from the Un-American Committee, from runaway shop tactics.

Miss Van Horn saw hopeful signs of developing labor opposition to this trend at the Amalgamated, Steel, Textile, Fur and Packing conventions. She outlined the need for greater independent labor political action on a peace program, for greater concern with foreign policy and especially the possibilities of foreign trade highlighted by the Moscow economic conference, and for a program to use the workers' hard earned tax dollar for beneficial public projects like housing and schools.

Mrs. Edna Nielsen of St. Joseph, whose peace-crusader husband is seeking the Republican nomination for Congress in opposition to war-

(Continued on Page 6)

FURNITURE WORKERS DEFEAT GOONS, INJUNCTION, WIN SEVEN-WEEK STRIKE

Three hundred and fifty Englander workers in the New York plant, under the leadership of Local 140, CIO Furniture Workers, have won a smashing victory after seven-week strike. The settlement is a 15 cents per hour package, including a general increase of 10 cents per hour, 1 percent additional contribution to the pension and welfare benefits making a total of 6 percent. Minimums have been increased by 10 cents per hour; two weeks vacation after three years and 70 additional

workers are to receive three weeks vacation.

In the seven weeks of strike, the company made every effort to break it. An anti-picketing injunction was secured from the courts. Next, the leaders of the union were charged with contempt for breaking through the injunction. Nevertheless, the Union succeeded in completely tying up the operations of the company in this area.

Included in the campaign were picket lines in front of every department store in New York which sells Englander products and picket lines in front of the New Jersey stores. One hundred thousand leaflets were distributed to the buying public. Flying squads were sent to Philadelphia, Boston and Baltimore where organization got under way. A convoy of twenty-five cars decorated with huge signs saying "Englander on Strike—DON'T Buy Their Products" put on a great show during the May Day parade in New York.

In the sixth week of the strike, the company made its last desperate move with a red-baiting campaign. A few stooges tried to circulate cards for a strike-breaking fake AFL union.

On May 8, came the last desperate step. Fifty gangsters and goons from the waterfront mobs made an attempt to break the picket line. They made two as-

saults on the line and were completely beaten back by the workers. The next morning the entire local was on the picket lines and the lines remained untouched.

The company's strikebreaking hopes were smashed . . . and negotiations began!

The workers in Englander include white and Negro workers, foreign and native born; Italian, Jewish, Puerto Rican, Polish and every other nationality you find in our country. They include workers of all political beliefs—Democrats, Republicans, Communists, Socialists, American Labor Party.

All were welded into one solid fighting unity. The bosses at-tempts to red-bait fell flat and were exposed. At the shop meeting where the settlement was voted on, a tribute was paid to the strike committee.

The entire local membership threw their full support behind the strikers. At an enthusiastic membership meeting the members voted to assess themselves every week as long as the strike would last in support of the Englander workers. They turned out in large numbers on the picket line.

Alex Sirota, manager of Local 140, said . . . "Let this victory serve notice on every anti-labor employer. When you touch the workers in our union, you are playing with a buzz saw."

There already have been results in other shops. The workers in Burton Dixie have joined Local 140 (an election will be held within the next several weeks). The boss in Burton Dixie and U. S. Cabinet were forced to give a ten cent increase to their workers the day after the settlement was reached. Local 140 is planning to complete organization of Burton Dixie and U. S. Cabinet and then move forward to the fight for a 35 hour week.

"The spirit of labor solidarity and militancy is at its peak. We are ready to move forward to new victories."

LINKS IN CHAIN

They are links in a chain enslaving millions of poor workers, especially Negro and Puerto Rican families, to dungeon existence and rent-gouge exploitation. On the face of it, it seems paradoxical. Why should "slum-clearance" and "cooperative" housing be an attack on housing standards of low-income workers? Aren't new projects, clean, fresh, modern home environments better than the housing conditions they replace?

Of course, but not the kind of housing that the Wall Street landlords are plotting. For in the answer to these questions lies the key to the vast war-profit scandal of monopolist realtors and the long-range conspiracy to wreck low-rent projects, rent control and slum-clearance.

Under the false banner of "slum clearance" the profit-hungry landlords are using Title I of the Fed-

eral Housing Act to buy up government-cleared lands at ridiculously low prices and then to erect high-rent apartments in low-income communities.

MANHATTAN

This gigantic housing swindle, stealing hundreds of millions of public tax funds for realty trust investments, is forcing Negro and Puerto Rican families deeper and deeper into slums, choking hundreds of thousands of bare-sub-sistence wage earners into apartments far above their ability to pay, creating vast dislocation of families, establishing new ghettos and jimcrow walls, piling segregation on top of segregation, and steamrolling to the biggest public crisis ever seen in New York City.

The main arena for the realty conspirators at the moment is Manhattan. Here is the most concentrated population, the highest land value, the biggest commercial and industrial assessments, the richest stores, the best communications—here is Wall Street and Macy's and the heart of land wealth of the billionaire corporations in New York City. It is in Manhattan that the Manhattan-villes, the Manhattan-towns, the Stuyvesant Towns, the Harlems, and the Knickerbocker Villages, are undergoing the "great" experiment.

From Corlears Hook at the tip of the island to Parkchester near Pelham Bay the schemers are ringing millions of working class families with swank highways, intricate arterial networks, luxurious east and west riverfront drives and parks; slashing through the poor districts with "middle rent" projects; planting elms where houses used to be; suddenly becoming "park conscious" in hitherto slum communities; creating, in other words, an island free of the eye-sores that could trouble the rich.

But what happens to the workers? Where do the Negro people go? What about the doubled-up, tripled-up Puerto Ricans? What is the fate of the East Side Jewish garment workers, the Irish longshoremen in Chelsea, the Italian family on Mulberry and Bleeker Sts., the German-American worker in Yorkville?

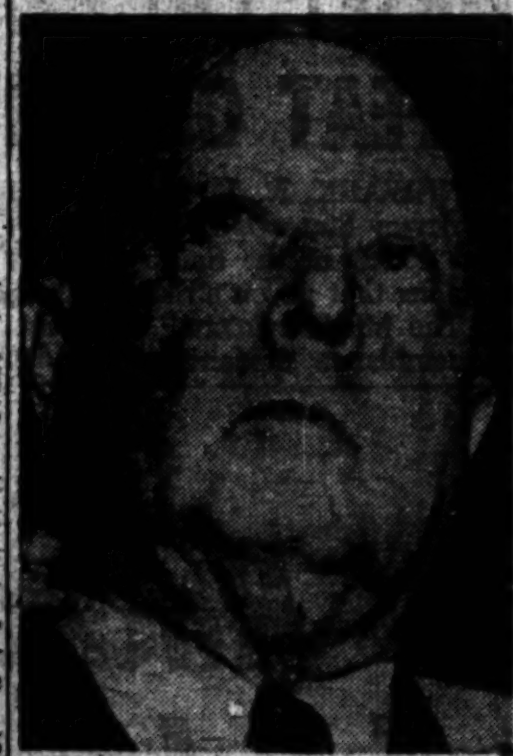
After the highways, the parks, the trees, the lush greenery, the new, clean vistas for apartment-dwellers in high-rent homes—what about the families who were dispossessed, evicted, torn up from their homes and communities, driven to new and worse slums?

The answer is seen in the overwhelming misery of the city's teeming low-income communities. It is seen in the tremendous disproportion between the estimated 9,000 new low-cost public apartments for 1952 and the HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS of applications on file at the City Housing Authority. It is seen in the swift pauperization of "middle-income" families who cannot pay "middle-rent" demands and who are ineligible for low-rent projects. It is seen in the spiraling rents in decrepit, old-law tenements jam-packed by an influx of dispossessed families from public and "cooperative" housing sites elsewhere.

The landlords are reaping a double harvest. On the one hand they are making exorbitant profits from the jacked up, service-less rents imposed on tenants that either take the available "out of reach" apartments or live in the streets, and from the bonanza of \$30, \$40 and \$50 a room per month "middle-rent" projects, further enhanced by the tax-exemption, under-assessed land-grabs of government-cleared sites.

Added to that are the wholesale evasions of the state rent control law and the bypassing of state limitations for investment profits to 4 percent of the original construction costs.

(The third article in the series tomorrow.)



ROBERT MORRIS LOVETT

Name Lovett Progressive Candidate for Governor

CHICAGO. — Robert Morris Lovett, outstanding peace and civil rights leader, was named this week as the Progressive Party's candidate for Governor of Illinois. The party's nominating committee, set up by the recent statewide membership meeting,

announced the following additional names on its state ticket:

Joseph Larvanette for Lieutenant-Governor.

Norman Nebenzahl for Secretary of State.

Irving Meyers for Attorney General.

Marion Caligaris for State Treasurer.

Lola Belle Holmes for Auditor of Public Accounts.

For Trustees of the University of Illinois: Lillian X. Frost, Marjorie Kelley and Florence Cowgill.

FIGHT LIFE TERM GIVEN HEAD OF PHILIPPINE UNION

HONOLULU, May 25.—Arrangements are being made to appeal the life imprisonment of Amado Hernandez, president of the biggest union in the Philippines, to the Philippines Supreme Court. Hernandez is confined in Muntinlupa prison, located near Manila.

Hernandez, who also served as Manila City Councilman, was arrested on April 1 for "conspiracy to overthrow the government."

Donations to Amado's defense have been coming in from units of the Longshore and Warehouse Union in Hawaii. ILWU Local 37 in Seattle went on record recently to support Hernandez.

AFL TELEGRAPH STRIKERS VOTE TO END STRIKE

BULLETIN

The Western Union strike ends this morning. Union officials said last night that employees had voted 8,685 to 5,418 to end the strike. The vote in Chicago was 534 to 279 against settlement.

Terms for a Western Union pact agreed to by leaders of the Commercial Telegraphers Union, AFL, appeared to have been rejected in a strikers' votes held in the union's locals over the weekend. While as late as yesterday afternoon leaders were claiming the vote was close, the returns from the major centers showed a strong vote for rejection.

Chicago showed 534 to 279 to reject the pact. Kansas City cast a 73 percent vote for rejection. Also among the locals which voted to reject are Oakland, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Albany, Pittsburgh and other cities.

The contract is in some respects worse than the old pact, with much of the provided wage raises fictitious.

The strike, now in the eighth week, affects 80,000 workers throughout the country outside New York. In the metropolitan area, the workers are represented by the unaffiliated American Communications Association.

The terms of the new pact go into effect only after an application for rate increases the com-

pany still has to make, is acted upon and approved by the Federal Communications Commission. That will undoubtedly take months and there is no provision for retroactivity. The usual FCC procedure is to take at least 90 days for the hearings before announcing the results of its deliberations.

There was also some question if the raises would come through even then because company vice-president J. L. Wilcox said in a statement that the changes are "to take effect when the new rates produce enough money to meet the company's obligations on a 'pay as you go basis' and at the same time earn a fair profit." This suggests a trial period for the rates.

The workers on a 40-hour basis, about half the total, are to get a 10-cent hourly raise. Those now on a 45-hour basis, earning what they formerly earned at 48-hours, will be cut to 40 hours with hourly rates increased to give them the same weekly pay. The key employees on a 35-hour basis will get a \$22 monthly raise.

But Mr. Wilcox, in his statement, explained that the company can set the workweek for an employee in "any five eight-hour days Monday through Saturday," and he added:

"When the workweek becomes (Continued on Page 6)

Paris Editor Jailed For Editorial That Protested War Plan

By JOSEPH STAROBIN

PARIS, May 25.—The arrest of Andre Stil, editor-in-chief of Communist Party paper, L'Humanite, is seen here as a forerunner of new assaults on French liberties coinciding with the arrival of Gen. Matthew Ridgway Tuesday. Stil, 31, is the winner of a Stalin Prize for his novels on the dock workers' battle against the American occupation. He was arrested at 6 a.m. this morning in his home.

Stil's editorial yesterday morning calling for support of the great demonstration Wednesday of the French peace movement against Gen. Matthew Ridgway was cited as violating a law passed in 1948.

This is the first time an editor in such case has been arrested before trial.

The action is seen in progressive circles as a grave step toward suppression of the workingclass press, and as a prelude to possible further arrests.

Stil is a member of the central committee of the Communist Party.

The traditional parade at the cemetery where the heroes of the Paris Commune of 1871 are buried will reflect today the protest against Stil's arrest.

Police have ringed the Palais de Justice, where Stil has been held all day.

Meanwhile over a score of those arrested in last Friday's citywide rallies against war preparations are still in jail, among them a mother of seven children, an outstanding professor, Rene Maublanc.

Worldwide protests are certain to be aroused by the French government's arbitrary action—which is held as a new indication of the attempt to instal fascism here in

order to repress the universal hatred against the Atlantic Pact.

PARIS (Airmail).—The banning of a remarkable French play which told some bitter truths about American behavior in Korea has caused a sensation here.

The popular protest is merging with preparations for a vast demonstration upon the arrival of General Matthew Ridgway.

The play, by the leading young author, Roger Vailland, is entitled "Colonel Foster Will Plead Guilty." It had been held up by the local police for a week, allegedly because the theatre was violating the sanitary code.

The play finally opened and created a sensation: it tells the story of an American officer in Korea and how he changes from an apparently decent fellow with democratic scruples into a war criminal and murderer.

On the second night, a gang of rowdies sitting in the first row invaded the stage and started to beat up the actors. At the same time, tear-gas bombs were thrown from the balcony, and the audience itself was attacked. The rowdies, some of them known thugs of the De Gaullist movement, were finally expelled, and the show continued.

In the second intermission, however, the police declared the play was "troubling public order" and closed it down. The next day the ban was applied to the Seine area.

A dozen people were hurt in the fighting on the second night, including the assistant to Louis

Daquin, the play's director. A few cops were also roughed up. Everyone understands, of course, that the police itself organized the whole business. Having failed to stop "Colonel Foster" by technicalities, they utilized the excuse which they themselves provided.

Over the week-end, at a two-day rally of the French peace movement, the actors, director and author were hailed at the Vel D'Hiver by 30,000 people.

Everyone here feels that the U. S. Embassy gave the signal for closing down this sharp condemnation of U. S. policy on the eve of Ridgway's arrival.

Rarely has a work of art been so intimately linked to political reality as in this case.

Escalator Gives \$1,600,000 to Harvester Firm

CHICAGO.—The International Harvester Co., employing 75,000 workers, estimates it will save \$1,600,000 a year as a result of a cent an hour cut in wages due to a slight drop in the cost-of-living index for the past quarter.

This is the first such cut since the Harvester escalator clause was incorporated in its contract with AFL, CIO and UE unions 22 months ago.

Open Drive to Outlaw Germ Warfare in Korea

CHICAGO, May 25.—A campaign for "outlawing germ warfare as well as atomic warfare" was launched last week at an executive board meeting of the American Peace Crusade.

The report, prepared by Dr. Quentin Young of the APC Medical Peace Forum, dealt with world opinion against the use of germ warfare, the Geneva Convention of 1925 which outlawed such weapons, and the recent expressions in this country and abroad condemning the use of bacteriological weapons in Korea.

THE APC announced that a pamphlet would be issued next week containing the highlights of this report.

The pamphlet is to be used in connection with a campaign urging the U. S. government to sign the Geneva Convention. The U. S. and Japan are the only major nations which have never added their signatures to the pact pledging that they will not use weapons of this type.

The demand will be made to President Truman that he place the issue of joining the international code before Congress.

THE Medical Peace Forum at the same time announced that it would supply speakers to appear before groups dealing with this question.

One meeting on germ warfare will be held by the National Groups Peace Council on Tuesday night, May 27 at the Creek Hall, 522 E. Hobart.

The APC was also preparing

a mass peace rally on June 25, the second anniversary of the Korean war.

The Czechoslovak - American Peace Committee will hold a peace rally on Tuesday evening, June 10, at Stefanik Hall, 2448 S. Pulaski. This affair will also commemorate the anniversary of the destruction of the town of Lidice by the Nazis.

MEANWHILE, the Chicago Women for Peace this week plan-

ned a peace petition campaign during the Memorial Day period, following their successful campaign preceding Mother's Day.

The women's organization is preparing a special peace petition which will call on the people to stop the slaughter in Korea and the adding of new war dead to be mourned.

They will devote the week prior to Memorial Day to circulating these petitions at parks, picnic groves and at busy street corners.

ARMY CHIEF THREATENS FURTHER KOJE BLOODSHED

WASHINGTON, May 25.—Further "bloodshed" at the prison camp of Koje Island, Korea, was hinted at by Army Secretary Frank Pace, it was disclosed today. Pace testified to the Senate Armed Services Committee for two and a half hours on Friday. He told the Senators, it was stated by one Senator, that prisoners in the Koje camp were still flying red flags over their compounds.

According to Pace's public state-

ment, the large Koje compounds are to be broken down into smaller enclosures holding only about 500 prisoners each. The smaller compounds will be separated to make it harder for the prisoners to establish communication.

Pace was understood to have told the Senate committee that the move to break up the compounds may result in bloodshed.

Pace was also said to have assured the committee that the officers (three U. S.) involved in the recent Koje events will be ordered back to the U. S. and that they will be available for private questioning by the Armed Services group.

The three generals are Francis T. Dodd, captured at the island prison camp; Charles F. Colson, who negotiated for Dodd's release, and Paul F. Yount, their immediate superior.

Dodd and Colson were broken to colonel upon the recommendation of Gen. Mark Clark. Yount was ordered officially reprimanded.

MUNSAN, Monday, May 26.—Maj. Gen. William K. Harrison, major senior delegate for Gen. Mark Clark's truce team, based himself today on President Truman's statement in announcing he would refuse to change his stand on the prisoner exchange issue. Truman, last week in his West Point speech, had said he backed the policy of prolonging the war rather than agree on an all-for-all prisoner exchange.

COMMITTEE FIGHTING SMITH ACT CITES MESSAGES OF SUPPORT FROM WIDE AREA

Messages of encouragement are streaming into the offices of the Citizens Emergency Defense Conference of New York from hamlets, townships and cities all over the U. S. and from far-off Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico. It was stated yesterday by Clifford T. McAvoy, chairman of the CEDC.

"These letters and postcards," McAvoy said, "flow from the pens, pencils and typewriters of workers, farmers, old age pensioners, little bankers, ministers, educators—Negro and white, Catholic, Jewish, Protestant—from all walks of life."

"From Missoula, Mont., a farmer writes: 'You are really doing a great work for the common people.'"

"From Mora, Minn., a mother writes: 'Sorry I can't give more to get the Smith Act defeated.'"

"From Haddon, Kan., an old-

age pensioner praises the CEDC Trial Report: 'It's tops in exposing the phony charges; keep it coming.'"

"An ex-GI from Alaska states: 'You're fighting for my freedom, too.'"

"A Negro truck driver from Lexington, Ky., writes: 'Your fight for civil liberties and a fair trial is a fight for my people's rights.'"

"These messages, and hundreds more like them, spotlight the tremendous reservoir of resentment against Smith Act thought-control that has steadily risen among the people and has begun to overflow the dams of fear."

"And this outpouring of protests testifies to the deep ferment now going on in American life. The days of steady retreat are over. The time is ripe for an offensive

against gag-law rule.

"As this change deepens the 16 defendants in Foley Square with their defense counsel are waging a magnificent battle inside the courtroom. We believe that a legal victory for the defendants and the people is possible, but only if the struggle outside the courtroom matches the one inside. Public resentment of Smith Act trials must be effectively expressed."

"Our May 27 defend-free speech rally at Hotel Capitol provides a splendid opportunity for such timely expression. An overflow attendance will signal that the people are fighting back with determination. We therefore urgently appeal to the members of all people's organizations in New York to pack the hall to over-

Letters from Readers

Sponsored Picketing At Greek Consulate

NEW YORK.

Editor, the Daily Worker:

The Council of Greek Americans appreciates your story on Thursday's picket line (for freedom for the 10 Greek Maritime Union leaders, who are facing a death sentence in their present trial in Athens,) but we want to call to your attention the fact that the sponsorship of the line was the Council of Greek Americans.

GUS TATES, chairman

Correcting

A Hearst Lie

Editor, Daily Worker:

Although it is impossible to reply to all the fabrications published in the commercial press about the 16 Communists on trial in Foley Square, I felt it necessary to reply to an attack on S. W. Gerson, one of the defendants, in Louis Sobol's column in the Journal-American. Here is the letter I sent to Sobol:

Mr. Louis Sobol,
New York Journal-American

May I call your attention to two things wrong with your May 2 paragraph on S. W. Gerson, one of the 16 Communists currently on trial in the U.S. Court House:

1. Mr. Gerson was never, as you stated, ousted as city editor of the Daily Worker. He never left "because the entire staff rebelled against him."

2. Nor at any time had the staff, as you further stated, "signed a petition asking for his removal."

These are the facts:

Mr. Gerson was the paper's city editor during two brief periods, once from February to July 1934, and again from February to June, 1946. I distinctly recall him leaving the post in 1934 at his own request to take over the City Hall beat. And it is public knowledge he resigned from the paper, December 31, 1937, to become Assistant to the Borough President of Manhattan. He subsequently returned to the paper in 1940 as Albany correspondent, took leave of absence a year later to become N.Y. State Communist Party Legislative Director.

Mr. Gerson was my city editor again in 1946 after he returned from a two year infantryman's hitch in the Pacific war theatre. He left the paper and the post of city editor again when he was elected by the New York State Communist Committee as its legislative chairman, the post he now holds.

Your informant has misled you. There were no rebellions, no petitions. I was there. I ought to know.

Yours for accuracy,

Harry Raymond.

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World of Labor

by George Morris

Steelworkers, the Forgotten Men

COMMENTING on the steel seizure dispute, the United Mine Workers Journal said, "The steelworkers were the forgotten men in this clamorous encounter in which the principal antagonists were steel management and the White House." That is about it.

President Truman, in a press conference, underscored the other day his concern in the controversy—a test of his so-called inherent constitutional right to seize property—but the interest of the workers was to him purely incidental. After more than six months of negotiations and wrangling and testifying before the WSB and postponing strikes at least four times, the picture stands as follows:

If the Supreme Court sustains Judge Pine's decision and, therefore, orders return of the mills to the companies, the workers would simply be free to strike, and have no alternative but to do so, to achieve the wages recommended by the Wage Stabilization Board.

If the high court rules the President has the right to seize the plants, then, presumably, the government would also have a right to put into effect the WSB settlement. It is a question, however, whether Truman will give the full WSB formula.

But suppose the court rules that the President can operate the plants but can do nothing

deemed "damaging" to the interests of the owners, like raising wages? Or suppose the court kicks the issue back to lower courts for prolonged litigation, with wages frozen in the meantime?

THAT THE INTERESTS of the steelworkers could become a football to be kicked around by the White House, courts and the steel companies, is further made likely, judging by some of the views expressed by the President. He told newsmen that nobody, including the courts, has a right to deprive him of the so-called "inherent" constitutional right to seize plants. If he holds to that view and defies a court decision, we may be in for a longer and more complicated snarl than any of us can dream of, with the steel workers more forgotten than ever.

Assuming even the "best" deal—approval of the seizure and immediate enforcement by the Government of the WSB settlement—the blow will fall on the American people and the labor movement in particular. Armed with court-approved seizure powers, the President, whether Truman or his successor, will have crushing dictatorial powers such as no President has wielded before.

THE LATTER POINT was apparently beginning to take on

some meaning even for Philip Murray and other CIO leaders, who at first went all out in support of seizure.

At the recent convention of the steel union Murray took the position that the union wasn't concerned with the seizure issue as such, and that when all the court procedure was over the steel workers and companies would still have to agree on a contract.

The prolonged and noisy demonstration of the 3,000 delegates at the steel convention for the resolution serving notice that the workers don't intend to wait "indefinitely" reflected the impatience of the steel workers. But the conclusion of the railroad dispute, after a two-year long seizure, shows how much patience the White House has.

The railroad companies certainly had much patience, because they hardly ever did as well in profits, disbursement of dividends, liquidation of debts and renovation of equipment, as they did in the two years under seizure. The first quarter of 1952, for example, showed clear profits 34 percent above the same quarter of 1951, and 1951 was substantially above 1950.

Assured, as were the railroads, that wages would not be changed, the steel interests could be just as patient as the road operators, and they would be no more fearful of the "socialism" in seizure, than were the railroads.

The question comes down to what was meant by the word "indefinitely" in the resolution passed by the steel workers. The railroad workers didn't wait indefinitely. They waited two years. If the steel workers mean they don't intend to wait many weeks, they'd better make their sentiment known, because the other three parties involved—the White House, the employers and the courts—are in no hurry.

Press Roundup

THE TIMES raves like a Goebbels about the alleged vicious falsehood, "perfidy," "malicious invention" and "deceit" of "Communist propaganda" on the Korean prisoner-of-war issue. All this hysterical invective is evoked by the Korean and Chinese charges about the mistreatment of their soldiers in American hands. Yet it was not "Communists" but Gens. Colson and Dodd who acknowledged that POWs had been mistreated. It was not "Communists" but Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt who said that we Americans would protest forcible screening and 'voluntary' repatriation of POWs if we were in the Koreans' situation. The Times is happy that the Pentagon "wisely" demoted Colson and Dodd. But making them the fallguys only tells the world that these two generals committed the unforgivable sin of busting Washington's biggest propaganda balloon.

THE HERALD TRIBUNE's police-spy turned Wall Street journalist (the switch can work other way, too), Herbert Philbrick, is on to a soft little racket. Following in the footsteps of Ogden Reid, Philbrick is inventing items about the "Communists" for the delectation of Tribune readers.

This week Philbrick explains how all the "Communists" were ordered to find "errors" in Whitaker Chambers' book and couldn't find a single one! Why, there's an "error" on every page of the 808, but Philbrick is a party to it, so he can't see it. The "error" of these professional stoolpigeons is that they think war and fascism defeat the people's democracy.

THE POST calls for a Truman veto of the "oppressive, restrictive McCarran immigration act." The Post complains that "Pat McCarran, that self-styled warrior against communism, had presented the Communist propagandists with a new indictment of democracy." No, the "Communist propagandists" do not indict democracy. They indict fascism and capitalist reaction. Not just one unspeakable McCarran, but the majority of the U.S. Congress, voted for this vicious act.

THE NEWS is all for Sen. Paul Douglas' idea of "cutting military outlays by \$4 billion a year without reducing our armed strength." The idea is to cut out some of the "wastefulness." "Wastefulness"—that's a polite word for graft. But, since graft and Big Business super-profits are two of the main reasons the fake war "emergency" is around, the News is just tricking the public when it promises that victory for the Republican grafters will save the nation "from the poorhouse."

THE COMPASS' Leon Edel reports on a "recent firing with alleged anti-Semitic overtones" at the United Nations, with the victim... receiving poison pen letters with UN postage stamps on the envelopes." Obviously Mr. Trygve Lie's organization is getting ready to welcome Adenauer's Nazis into the "free world."

-R.F.



Of Things to Come

by John Pittman

Asians Not Deceived By Washington's Lies

THE NEW YORK TIMES' Saigon correspondent, Tillman Durbin, in a May 22 dispatch sought to reassure the American people that the peoples of Southeast Asia are not moved by the Chinese and Korean charges that the Pentagon militarists are using germ warfare in Korea and mistreating war prisoners. He wrote that "among the small upper crust of Southeast Asians who can read to follow world events, the Communist campaign has stirred considerable if somewhat jaded interest. . . . The most knowledgeable Southeast Asians have by now become relatively blasé about Communist propaganda in general."

However, even if Durbin's report is accurate—and there are sound reasons to doubt its accuracy—it would be a fatal mistake if the American people allowed themselves to take comfort in the "blasé" attitude of the tiny minority of "knowledgeable Southeast Asians." The outstanding representatives of this tiny minority are such persons as Chiang Kai-shek, Bao Dai and Syngman Rhee.

The really knowledgeable Southeast Asians may not be able to read or write either English or their national language, but they know from experience what injures them and what helps them. They are the million masses of poor peasants and workers whose comprehension of world affairs is a great deal more sound than that of many a Harvard—graduated member of the National Association of Manufacturers or many a U.S. Senator with a Phi Beta

Kappa Key.

What chiefly teaches these perhaps illiterate masses is not "Communist propaganda," as the imperialists insist, but what they suffer at the hands of imperialism, and the contradictions they see between what the imperialists say and what the imperialists do.

The villagers of Indo-China, whose huts and families have been incinerated with napalm made in America, dropped by planes made in America (even if flown by French pilots), are not inclined to require scientific proof that the plague-infected flies, feathers, leaflets and other materials dropped in Korea and China were in fact dropped by American planes.

The Malaysians whose families have been carted off to concentration camps, whose domestic animals have been poisoned by chemicals sprayed from British airplanes, whose sons and brothers have been decapitated by British patrols, do not have to be able to read and write English to know what is happening in the world, or to understand that people who would do such things to them would be capable of the most fiendish crimes.

Nor is it lost on our "allies" even among the "knowledgeable" upper crust in South Korea, Formosa, Japan, the Philippines, Burma, Indonesia and India, that the approach of the

Washington militarists and politicians to the Asian peoples is a racist approach, which is capable of the foulest barbarities. Let no American suppose that Asian people do not take note of the fact that at the same time General Ridgway was telling Congress of the "high principled integrity, fidelity, courage and vision" of the American truce negotiators, the U. S. Senate was passing a McCarran immigration bill which, among other fascist aims, was intended to preserve the "ethnic purity" of the American people (such as it is) from "adulteration" by Asian "blood." What a commentary on the contradiction between imperialist word and imperialist deed!

Quite contrary to the New York Times' dispatch, which compounds the life of Ridgway's denial that germ and gas weapons have been used against the Koreans and Chinese, the Asian masses understand that they have to deal with the most criminally ruthless and hypocritical imperialism yet to develop in the world. Their hatred of this imperialism and their determination to destroy it and to liberate themselves is one of the most important facts of world politics today.

The American people have a life-and-death interest in dissociating themselves from Wall Street imperialism, and in liquidating this racist policy which has befouled our national honor and threatens now to drag us into national disaster.

COMING in the weekend WORKER
The Housing Crisis Sharpens

Daily Worker

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'CONTRACT' WITH THE NAZIS

IT IS AN EVIL and deeply anti-American deed that Secretary of State Acheson is planning to commit at Bonn today when he hopes to get the Eisenhower-planned "contract" signed with the West German quislings and Hitler generals.

The Truman-Acheson-Eisenhower leadership has refused to meet with the Soviet Union in a Big Four conference. They reject a peace treaty for a united, peaceful, neutral Germany. Instead, they are rushing this war-breeding "contract" with which they hope to make the split in Germany as permanent as they can make it. With this "contract," Eisenhower and Acheson hope to place a deep and dangerous gulf between East and West Germany. They will attempt to bar any trade between them. Even worse, the central goal of the Acheson-Eisenhower scheme is to speed the creation of a new fascist war machine, starting with 12 divisions and commanded by the foulest war criminals of the Hitler general staff. There can be but one assignment for such a Nazi-commanded war machine—to get ready for an aggressive attack on the East German Republic. Such an attack would mean world war three.

THE "CONTRACT" WHICH ACHESON is jamming down the throats of an unwilling German people robs them of every vestige of independence. It robs them of the right to be neutral; it robs them of the right to trade with whomever they please; it robs them of the right to be rid of alien armies which are now planted on their soil for a limitless time. The Acheson-Eisenhower "contract" even has the gall to assert that not only will the hardened war criminals now get new consideration but that this "contract" will be binding on the East German Republic or any German state! This is not a peace treaty with an equal power. It is an effort to kidnap the manpower of a divided nation, an effort to make Germany a permanent military colony of the Pentagon generals itching for a "show-down."

BUT IF THE EISENHOWER-ACHESON appeasers of the worst fascist elements in West Germany think that by this evil "contract" they can simply wipe out the resistance of the German nation or the peace-loving peoples of all lands, they are badly mistaken.

We can judge how deep and wide is the popular German hatred for the Eisenhower deal with the fascists for a new Nazi army by the statement of the Socialist Party leader, Kurt Schumacher. "He who agrees to this contractual agreement," he said two days ago, "cannot call himself a German anymore." All of German Protestantism spoke in the words of Bishop Dibelius, head of the German Protestant Church, when he denounced this "contract" as a breeder of disaster and war, and urged "there must be talks between both sides."

Neither the German working class nor any of the other classes will swallow this deal to sell German divisions to an alien general in a divided Germany being pushed to the brink of civil war.

WE AMERICANS HAVE in the German people a powerful ally against this ghastly war-breeding Munich deal. We can help the German nation to defeat and nullify this proposed deal with the Hitler generals which is a deal against America no less than it is a deal against Germany and all progressive Europe.

We should demand hearings in the U. S. Senate before it is ratified.

We should demand that all Senators pledge to oppose this crude effort to keep Germany divided as a focal point for a new world war.

We should let the German people know that America wants a united, peaceful Germany, with a treaty signed at a Big Four conference.

If we let Eisenhower and Acheson re-arm the Nazis the way Chamberlain did, we will pay heavily for it. We can stop it if we warn the nation against it in mass meetings, protest rallies, trade union resolutions, and messages to Washington. The anti-American "contract" with the Nazis doesn't end the fight; it is just opening up the fight of the people against it.

A Program to Defend America

- For a cease-fire in Korea. For a Big Five pact of peace.
- For a peace-time economy—with jobs protected by federal public works and a short work-week.
- For restoration of the Bill of Rights. An end to the political witchhunts and mass arrests which are destroying constitutional safeguards.
- End the discrimination and violence against the Negro people for full equality through enforcement of the Fourteenth Amendment and an FEPC.



The Baldanzi Secession Move: Blow To All Textile Workers

By MIKE RUSSO

BOSTON.

THE Baldanzi-led secessionist movement in the CIO Textile Workers Union is a disservice to labor in general and a treacherous blow to the Textile workers in particular. It has now become clear that this disruptive action was not the result of a spontaneous decision, but an "alternative" which Baldanzi had been contemplating for some time. It represents the logical culmination of an unprincipled struggle for power and should be denounced in no uncertain terms by all who value the unity of labor.

This action, fraught with serious implications for the textile workers, further exposes the hypocritical and treacherous character of Baldanzi's "leadership" as vice president of TWUA and proves that his "opposition" to Emil Rieve, president of the union, was not based on any consideration for the hard-pressed textile workers at all, but grew out of a consuming personal ambition for power.

Aimed at the union in a period of extreme emergency this foul blow will encourage employers to intensify their attacks against the union, already weakened by mass unemployment and a protracted internal struggle. Alert to any opportunity to cut wages and increase workloads, textile corporations will not fail to take full advantage of this "break," as indeed they are already doing to put across wage cuts and work-load increases.

The Bates Mill in Maine, now pressing for a 11½ cents an hour wage cut, will undoubtedly drive even harder as a result of Baldanzi's splitting action. The Fall River-New Bedford Cotton Manufacturers Association, clamoring for a 15 cents an hour wage cut for New England Cotton textile workers, will also undoubtedly be strengthened in their determination to achieve their wage cutting objectives—thanks to Baldanzi's treachery.

IT WOULD be dangerous indeed to underestimate the great harm that could result to the TWUA-CIO, the main base of the organized textile workers, from this treacherous blow. One has only to be aware of the long smoldering dissatisfaction among the rank and file over administration leadership and policies, and Baldanzi's wily demagoguery and to appreciate the

great damage—actual and potential—that could be done to the union.

To forestall the possibility of further weakening the main base of the organized textile workers in the United States and to block the mill owners' efforts to exploit Baldanzi's wrecking activities in their own interests, it is highly important that Baldanzi's actions be thoroughly exposed for what they are—a critical stab in the back and betrayal of the worst type.

Dissatisfaction had been growing for years in the ranks of the TWUA. The emergence of the Baldanzi caucus and the 1950 convention struggle were themselves distorted expressions of mounting opposition to Administration leadership and policies.

Baldanzi, despite basic agreement with Rieve on all major policy questions—wages, workloads, etc., nevertheless hypocritically exploited these long-standing rank-and-file grievances against the Rieve bureaucracy for his own factional purposes. He managed to succeed in this all the more because of the absence of a genuine rank-and-file movement against which the factional character of his own position would have been more clearly revealed.

BY IDENTIFYING themselves with Baldanzi, many honest union members, particularly among the secondary leaders, local presidents, business agents, et al., allowed their genuinely progressive aspirations to be dissipated in a factional struggle.

However, what might not have then been clear to these trade unionists, should indeed be clear now. If they are sincere in their desire to build a strong and democratic union in the interests of the membership, they should separate themselves at once from this criminal

attempt to weaken the TWUA and denounce Baldanzi for his act of betrayal.

We hold no brief for Rieve and his lieutenants in the Executive Council. But does anyone believe that the interests of the textile workers would better be served under the leadership of Anthony Valenti in the AFL United Textile Workers? Not long ago Baldanzi himself was most vehement in his denunciation of the UTW leadership. A man for whom principles, and loyalty to membership have no meaning can find a home anywhere, it seems.

BUT THE REAL issue is not Rieve or Baldanzi—both are reactionary and represent a type of leadership detrimental to labor. The real issue is the preservation of the main base of the organized textile workers of America, the TWUA-CIO. To preserve that base, especially today when it is under sharp attack, is a task of the utmost importance.

To strengthen that base so that it can act more effectively in the interests of all textile workers is vital. Baldanzi and the AFL leadership aim to split the Textile workers, weaken their main base, create confusion and disunity, and thereby lessen the worker's ability to resist employer attack and advance their own interests.

This objective—the defense of the interests of ALL textile workers can best be realized by strengthening the TWUA, the main base, so that eventually one union, embracing the great majority of the Textile workers, will prevail in the industry. That is why every union member and every local union official should condemn Baldanzi's wrecking activities and build the TWUA as the main stronghold of the organized textile workers in the United States.

HER SON-IN-LAW A POW, SHE SAYS, 'END THE WAR NOW'

PHILADELPHIA, May 25.—The mother-in-law of a POW in Korea calls for an end to this "terrible" war and criticizes the U.S. government for demanding voluntary repatriation as the price for a truce.

Mrs. H. C. Kaufman, Jr., writing to the "Philadelphia Bulletin," declares:

"We are waiting—patiently and I might add suffering with this foolish war. Our son-in-law is a prisoner there for 14 months, a heart-broken man. Served in the last war and recalled in this affair."

"Why do we continue this terrible affair and why hold out for repatriation? Why not consider our 12,000 loved ones waiting and praying to get home?"

Mother of POW

(Continued from Page 1)
fighting might lead to all-out war. She will ask the UN to "do something"—to intervene in the Pentagon-dominated truce negotiations at Panmunjom and prevent their collapse over the POW issue.

She was glad to hear, she said, that Mrs. Roosevelt has expressed scepticism over the correctness of U. S. policy on the POW issue. (Mrs. Roosevelt had written in her syndicated column that the U. S. were it in the Koreans' place, might also protest forcible screening of prisoners to determine whether they want to go home.)

"The parents of the POWs will have to do something," Mrs. Schnur said.

She hopes that her own small efforts will inspire many others throughout the country to do something specific for peace. She herself has been in contact with the families of some 200 men in Paul Jr.'s 23rd Infantry Division as well as with "many dozens" of others.

Everywhere, she said, she has found tremendous anxiety, a boundless desire to see the war's end. Not only the families of men already POWs, but many others, she has found, share this feeling. "All the kids are being drafted. Their parents are scared to death of Korea."

Back home in San Francisco, the Schnurs have received hundreds of letters from plain Americans praising their work for peace. (Mrs. Schnur is a former CIO official in San Francisco.)

From their son's prison camp, too, has come recognition and gratitude. In a letter dated March 4, Paul, Jr., told how his fellow-prisoners "wish you good luck in anything you undertake."

"As for myself," he wrote, "I am very proud to have people like you for parents. Quite a few of the men here told me that if there were more people like you back there we would be certain of a quick end to this affair."

Mrs. Schnur sat in the Daily Worker office her hands clasped firmly in her lap, and said that "This is the beginning here." The publicity obtained from her efforts in San Francisco and from the anticipated publicity in New York, she hopes, will inspire parents to press their newspapers, their public officials—now—for peace.

"There isn't too much time left," said Mrs. Schnur.

Hearings on McCarran Bill Urged by ALP

A charge that Sen. Pat McCarran, chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, has "ignored and flouted the provisions of the Congressional Reorganization Act by denying a public hearing on his immigration bill and on other bills concerning the same subject" was filed by the American Labor Party, it was announced by Arthur Schut-zer, ALP state executive secretary.

In a memorandum to Vice-President Alben W. Barkley, Schut-zer urged that Barkley "direct the Senate representatives on the House-Senate Conference Committee, which is now considering the differences between the House and the Senate version of the bill, to defer any further action pending full public hearings."

Telegraphers

(Continued from Page 3)
effective, Saturday will no longer be a premium rate day at time and one half and Sunday time will be reduced from double time to time and one half.

The fury of the workers is expected to go out especially on those changes. Overtime and premium day pay is a heavy influence in the earnings of the workers in this industry. For a great many the loss of premium pay will cancel most if not the entire raise, and more.

Another gimmick costly to the workers is the provision in the contract excluding "certain additional employees" from coverage under it. Several days ago the AFL union's leaders estimated the company wants a total of 1,795 persons it views as supervisors or branch managers, so excluded. Whether that was the extent of the exclusion finally agreed upon was still not clear.

The ACA is still in the midst of its negotiations for New York's 5,000 workers.

More than 200 stewards and captains of the ACA in a meeting Thursday voted to stop work and hold a 9 a.m. general membership meeting next Thursday to vote on a satisfactory pact or a strike to begin June 1 when their pact expires.

Unveil Stone To Wiseman

Braving a bitter rainstorm, 40 friends and members of the family of the late Sam Wiseman yesterday unveiled a headstone to the late Communist leader at Pinelawn Cemetery, Wellwood, Long Island.

The simple granite stone bore the inscription "Sam Wiseman, born 1901, died 1950" and the legend: "The Future Belongs to the People."

Brief tributes were paid to the memory of Wiseman who had been a leader in the unemployed, trade union and Communist movement, by Morris Angel, organizer of the International Fur and Leather Workers Union; Alan McKenzie, Negro leader and former executive secretary of the Bronx County American Labor Party and S. W. Gerson, legislative chairman, New York State Communist Party.

6 Million to Polls in Italy

ROME, May 25.—More than 6,000,000 Italian voters, half of all those registered, had braved heavy rains to vote today in 2,421 local elections. Chief interest was centered on Rome and Naples, where the possibility of a victory for the left-led coalition of peace forces had driven the Vatican to threats against Catholic voters who do not go along with Premier De Gasperi's war party.

No indications of results of the voting were expected for several days.

Posters in the big cities reflected the way in which the issues were presented to the voters. They were summarized as follows:

The Christian Democratic bloc, which is the party of De Gasperi: "Do you want an anti-Catholic, anti-freedom, Communist regime? Do you want Rome, your capital and seat of the Roman Catholic Church, subservient to Moscow?"

The Communist-left wing Social-ist bloc: "End rearmament and use the money instead to build houses, schools, playgrounds, hospitals. Put our 2,000,000 unemployed to work. Trade with Russia, who is eager to buy Italian goods, eager to export lumber, machines, grain. End the subservience to the American dollar monopolists. We want peace."

Pittsburgh Paper Assails Passport Bans

PITTSBURGH, May 25.—The U. S. government's increasing violations of the right to travel was condemned editorially by the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette of May 15 as a "totalitarian device." Referring to the denial of a passport to Dr. Linus Pauling, the paper insisted that "citizens of democracies have one right that is so fundamental to their way of life that it is usually taken for granted. It is the right to travel from one place to another as they please without being subjected to arbitrary restraint by the state."

The Post-Gazette sought to gloss over the reactionary policy of the State Department, however, by pretending that this is "the same sort of artificial barrier that the Russian government erects around its citizens. . . ." It was recalled, however, that when a large delegation of Soviet artists, writers and scientists visited this country a few years ago to attend a Cultural Peace Conference in New York, it was our own U. S. government which barred the group from traveling freely about the country to address various groups which had tendered the Russians invitations.

Fire Negro Steelworker Hurt on Job

SEATTLE, May 25.—A Negro steelworker, critically injured on a second job he had to take to feed his wife and seven children, was callously fired by Bethlehem Steel Co. for holding the two jobs, it was disclosed here by fellow workers at Bethlehem's large rolling mill here.

M. H. Evans, 37, was one of two men seriously hurt when an explosion ripped the steel skin of an Army barge into fragments at Harbor Island May 8. His condition was reported by Seattle General Hospital to be so serious that only his wife was permitted to see him.

The disclosure of Evans' ship repair job led to his immediate dismissal by Bethlehem, where he was employed in the yard as a lime charger.

Pay in the yard starts at \$1.32 an hour and goes up even more slowly than in other departments, workers report.

Many steelworkers, particularly Negroes who are largely confined to unskilled, low-paying work, are forced to go through the grind of working two shifts a day to make ends meet. They keep their second jobs a secret, however, because they are fired if the company finds out.

Classified Ads

SITUATION WANTED
YOUNG MAN desires position: elevator operator, super's helper, plumber's assistant. Box 902, Daily Worker.

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Michigan

(Continued from Page 2)
monger Clare Hoffman, moved the gathering with her plea for her own three children's future, and for all children who require peace for their "health, education and happiness." She read her eight-year old daughter's letter to the President:

"Dear Mr. Truman—I wish you would stop the war, then the country will have freedom and the people will be happy. Love, Bette."

Dr. Margaret Bradley, of St. Joseph, presented documents on the charge that imperialist forces have loosed germs in Korea.

Rev. Charles Hill, chairman of the Michigan Peace Council, chaired Saturday's session with his customary vigor and enthusiasm. Other leading participants were Mrs. Lenore Piazza, Council secretary, James Watts, ousted FEPC director of Ford Local 600, Mrs. Dorothy Dwey and Stanley Nowak.

Delegates were deeply moved by the first public presentation in America of a transcribed first-hand report by Mrs. Nora Rodd of Canada on the situation in North Korea, which she witnessed as part of an international women's delegation. The report, accompanied by photographs of mass graves, devastated homes and grief stricken people, served to underline the advice uttered by Rev. Edgar Wahlberg, a national officer of the Committee for Peaceful Alternatives, who opened the conference with these words:

"Let us be mindful of our kinship with all the people of the world."



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18th ATOMBOMB EXPLOSION SET OFF IN NEVADA DESERT

LAS VEGAS, Nev., May 25.—Scientists fired an atomic device in the Nevada desert today with a burning blast described as biggest yet seen here.

The explosion flared from a 300-foot steel tower at Yucca Flats while 2,000 troops huddled in foxholes nearby.

The explosion was the 18th nuclear blast staged at the southern Nevada proving grounds.

Thousands in Las Vegas saw the flash turn the early morning darkness into blinding light. At Los Angeles, nearly 400 miles distant,

residents reported seeing a "bright flash" in the northwestern sky. Another atomic blast detonation is scheduled later this month.

Albany ALP Hits New Smith and McCarran Bills

ALBANY, May 25.—A recent membership meeting of the American Labor Party Club of Albany went on record in unanimous opposition to the Smith union seizure bill and the McCarran-Walter immigration bill. Letters of opposition went to Congressman Leo O'Brien, Sen. Herbert Lehman and Sen. Irving Ives.

Methodist Pastor Assails Trucks Bill

DETROIT, May 25.—Rev. Henry Hitt Crane asserted last Sunday that the Trucks Act is "the most abominable, unconstitutional document ever perpetrated by a State Legislature." Dr. Crane, pastor of the huge Central Methodist Church, is chairman of the Civil Liberties Union in Michigan.

While the Trucks Act is "universally recognized as unconstitutional," Dr. Crane revealed, it took 10 days and a poll of 42 lawyers before one was found who "would even dare file suit against it."

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About Earl Conrad's Book

By LLOYD L. BROWN

Associate Editor, Masses & Mainstream

A couple of months ago Earl Conrad phoned me at Masses & Mainstream, asking me to read the galley proofs of his new book. He respected, he said, my literary judgment, and was anxious to get my opinion.

I did not know then (and Conrad didn't bother to tell me) that the day before he called me, a group of Negro women, leading progressives, had sharply denounced the book in a discussion with him.

I read *Rock Bottom*, and wrote the author the following letter:

March 3, 1952

Dear Earl Conrad:

"I have been thinking over our phone conversation of this morning and your question: Will the book have a positive effect by exposing the horrors of Negro oppression to white Americans?"

"Well it seems to me that for Americans generally there are three basic questions relating to the Negro question in our country:

"1. Are the Negro people oppressed?"

"2. Should they be oppressed?"

"3. If they are, what should be done about it?"

"Now I will grant that insofar as your book is concerned the last question is (except by implication) outside the scope of the work. But I would insist that the first two are inseparable. No judgment of the fact of oppression can properly be considered without a presentation of the quality of the oppressed, i.e., the character and make-up of the Negro people.

"People can be agitated about the abuse of animals; but when all of the cruelty has been deplored, the conclusion will remain: these are still animals.

"But Negro oppression cannot be truly protested unless the Negro people are seen and understood as being human, with all of the attributes of humanity. The real horror of treating a Negro like a dog is that he is a man. This truth was understood over a century ago by both the Negro and white abolitionists: the slave narratives (Douglass, and others) and the white writers (Mrs. Stowe and others) not only depicted the brutal facts of slavery, but also the nature of the slaves.

"Now you might point to the document *We Charge Genocide!* which limits itself to an indictment based upon factual evidence as a parallel to your book. But it is not. Your work not only sets out to show the oppression, but inevitably, because you are dealing with people, it gives a picture of what the oppressed are like.

"The picture is a false one and it is for this reason that Negro people will not like it. It is false, not in some sense of not-quite-accurate, but because it emerges as the picture of the Negro as seen by his oppressors. And worse: this depiction of the Negro people as a dehumanized mass is used to justify continued oppression.

"Most white readers, perhaps, will not be shocked by this picture you present: it fits in with all their prejudices (Negroes are immoral, dangerous, criminal, debased, etc.). You do have at the end of various chapters an 'explanation' of why this is so; but this seems only to compound the wrong in my opinion.

"For all practical purposes—and especially in our day—I can see no basic difference between the Bourbon formulation ('The Negro is kept down because he is inferior') and the liberal, Myrdalian formulation ('The Negro is inferior because he is kept down').

"So to come back to the opening question, I would say that since the picture of the Negro people is false and distorted (both by selection and omission) in your book, the work will have a harmful effect upon white readers. Indeed the fact that it is presented ostensibly from the Negro viewpoint will only serve to heighten the damage.

"One typical scene seems to epit-

omize the whole in my mind. A Negro is forced by the brutal bossman to eat his own feces. He does so. The other Negroes applaud (because the eater is a stoolpigeon). What effect can this have upon the reader? Shock, yes. But more: revulsion against boss, eater and the other Negroes. And of them all, least, I think, against the boss.

"You asked me if the total work could be altered by incidental changes, and I said I was sure it couldn't. You didn't ask me my opinion on whether you should withdraw it; but surely you must see from the foregoing that I would say you should."

No answer came. I expected none, for in the phone conversation mentioned in my letter Conrad told me very plainly that he was not particularly concerned whether Negroes liked the book or not; 24 out of every 25 readers, he said, would be white. Some "white progressives" had

liked the book, he said, and hence it would probably be "controversial."

Now here is a frank question to all progressives. Can a depraved book that depicts the Negro people as "garbage," "rats," and among us? Can people who are civilized, much less progressive, "take sides" about this unspeakable assault on Negro womanhood?

I say that if the promoters of *Rock Bottom* manage to create a "controversial" division on this fundamental issue of human decency, then the class enemy will have made a breakthrough in his drive to divide white progressives from the Negro people. But I cannot believe this will happen.

I am sure that no true friend

of the Negro people will agree with

Conrad that it doesn't matter what

Negroes, and Negro women in particular, think about his slanderous

book.

WHITE SUPREMACIST NOVEL REVIVED IN SOUTH SEA FILM

By BEN LEVINE

There was a sea captain, in the days of sailing ships, who found a secret route from Singapore to a South Sea island. This gave him a trading monopoly that made him rich and brought prosperity to the happy inhabitants of the island. But a viper crept into this paradise—a young scoundrel who wormed the captain's secret out of him, and brought ruin on himself and on the island.

This is the story of "Outcast of the Islands," a London Films presentation now running at the Fine Arts Theatre on 58 St. It is taken from a tale by Joseph Conrad.

Joseph Conrad had a certain vogue about 40 years ago. His ponderous prose and purple passages were hailed as profound psychology.

If the present film has any merit, it is that it helps us see clearly that the much-touted Joseph Conrad is nothing but a vulgar white supremacist. The South Sea people for him are nothing but a backdrop to the passions of the whites. The Malaysians are presented as lovable, child-like people who scramble for crumbs from

the white traders. Kerima, the beautiful, queenly daughter of the chief, has flashes of savage cruelty. The hero's love for her is painted as a mysterious witchery. Their marriage, it is hinted, is the cause of the final collapse of the hero's character.

The South Sea leader, who questions the sea captain's authority and schemes to break his trade monopoly, is depicted as a sinister character. This sinister character by the way, says the only interesting line we heard that evening: "Who is the white man to tell us what is good for us?"

Too bad that excellent photography and acting and directing (the last by Carol Reed) should be used for imperialist propaganda.

There was a short on the same bill concerning Toulouse-Lautrec, 19th century artist who painted the decadent part of the Parisian society of his day. The story of this crippled, ugly scion of an old South French family, narrated by Conrad Nagel, served to explain the work of this painter, whose brush faithfully reflected an environment of which he was so completely a part and beyond whose level he could not rise.

MUSIC, DRAMA WEDNESDAY WILL BRING PEACE MESSAGE

A rich and entertaining program has been prepared for the Peace Festival at St. Nicholas Arena this Wednesday night. The message of peace will be dramatized as a tabloid with musical background.

The script was prepared by Yvonne Gregory.

Julian Mayfield and Michael Lewin are co-directors with Joseph Sanders as producer.

The Festival is sponsored by the American Peace Crusade and N.Y. Peace Institute.

Pablo Neruda's prize winning poem, "Let The Rainsplitter Awake" will be read by actor Lloyd Gough.

There will be a dramatic portrayal by Lorraine Hansberry, actress and poet, who was a delegate at the Montevideo Inter-continental Peace Congress.

The Negro actor Maxville Glanville will be in the program.

There will be an extravaganza with four choral groups in a spectacular "Mothers' Peace Cantata" composed by Rayna Havin, who was with the Federation Populaire de Musique (Paris). Nadyne Brewer, soprano, will have a leading part in the cantata.

There will be dances from the Far East, with native costumes. The

delicate and sensitive dances of India and China will be presented by Gina and Chai Li-Chue.

There will be dances by the Ukrainian American Dnipro group. American square and Israeli dances will be performed by members of the New York Dance Workshop.

The folk singer Martha Schlamme will also perform.

The entire program will be highlighted by the people's yearning for peace—the desire for a five-power peace pact.

The tickets are \$1.20 and \$1.80 with some at \$2.40. They are available at the American Peace Crusade, 125 W. 72 St., N. Y. Peace Institute, 111 W. 42 St., and at the Jefferson Bookshop and Bookfair.

Two Plays

The Howard Da Silva-Brett Warren Acting Classes announce the performance of two plays with the students of the school, "Fortunato," by the Quintero Brothers, and an act of "The Inheritors" by Susan Claspell, June 4-6 at Yugoslav-American Hall.



on the scoreboard

by lester rodney

RALPH CRANE, a keen follower of the chess scene, not one of our strong points, takes it over today with a discussion of just who is champion and why.

By RALPH CRANE

FORMER U. S. CHESS CHAMPION Samuel Reshevsky (CCNY student Larry Evans defeated him in the 1951 U. S. championship) is back in New York, claiming the title "chess champion of the non-Communist world," because of a victory over Miguel Najdorf (Argentina). In New York, where Reshevsky won six games and drew the other two, he admitted that "undoubtedly Najdorf is not playing in his usual form." But the "Chess Review" (New York privately owned monthly) on the strength of this New York showing hailed Reshevsky on its May issue cover as the "Miracle Match Player."

In Mexico City, Reshevsky drew two and lost three, coming up with a silly alibi about the high altitude, for, if the altitude made any difference, his opponent was as unaccustomed to it as he was. In San Salvador, Reshevsky won two and lost one.

International chess is governed by the International Chess Federation (the U. S. Chess Federation being a part of it) on the basis of a well established rating system, which determines entries to the Zonal and Interzonal preliminary tournaments.

But the real plot goes back further. In a speech at Wertheim Memorial Tournament (New York) on June 3, 1951, Mr. Al Bisno, Manhattan Chess Club chairman, stated that "the free world must soon have a chess champion of its own, now that a large part of the world is shut off from international relations." And so the Najdorf-Reshevsky match was arranged. Mr. Bisno is a real estate promoter. In 1951, with some other wealthy backers, he proceeded to promote Reshevsky with the World Championship as the goal. Reshevsky, an accountant, could now devote himself entirely to chess. Former World Chess Champion Dr. Max Euwe (Holland) wrote in the September, 1951, "Chess Review": "American officials are resolved that Reshevsky should never again be excluded—for whatever reason—from the Candidates' Tournament. There are two chief possibilities: either holding the Candidates' Tournament in the Western Hemisphere, or else staging a special World Championship contest of the Western Hemisphere."

This means splitting the international unity of the chess world, at a time when Soviet participation in the coming Olympics makes them more international than ever before.

To cap the climax, a New York Times editorial on May 18 headed "Salute to a Master" brazenly asserts that Reshevsky's convincing victory over Najdorf of Argentina clearly entitles Reshevsky to the title of chess champion of the free world. The large margin of victory achieved in this match throws further doubt on the validity of Mikhail Botvinnik's claim to be world chess champion, for Reshevsky did not participate in the latest competition. A Botvinnik-Reshevsky match would clear up doubts on the matter and provide one type of Soviet-American conflict that all people could welcome.

That the "chess hope" of the "free world" was unable to participate in the 1951 Challengers' Round in no way vitiates Botvinnik's clear title to his world chess crown, won across the chess board in 1948 and successfully defended in 1951. The New York Times' proposal is arrogant and anti-democratic. Reshevsky could have participated in 1951, but didn't. In 1948, both Reuben Fine and Reshevsky were named by the International Chess Federation to compete, along with Euwe (Holland) and Botvinnik, Keres and Smyslov (USSR). Fine did not attend; Reshevsky did. Each player played each other five games. Botvinnik won, becoming World Champion; Reshevsky tied with Keres for third and fourth places. Scoring five points for games won, the score stood: Botvinnik, 70 points; Smyslov, 66; Reshevsky and Keres, 52.5; and Dr. Euwe, 20. Botvinnik won 10 games, drew 8 and lost 2; Reshevsky won only 6, drew 9 and lost 5. Botvinnik won 3 from Reshevsky, lost 1 and drew 1. The New York Times' doubt about Botvinnik's claim to the world chess title is absolutely without foundation.

Harold M. Phillips, president of the USCF, also vice-president of the international body, has just named Mrs. Mary Bain, U. S. Women's Champion, to take part in the Women's World Chess Tournament to be held this year in the USSR from October 20 to November 20. The appointment was made, since the zone tournament slated for last year was not held. U. S. chess does take part in international tournaments.

Why has not President Phillips condemned the splitting of the international chess world? Or is U. S. chess run by a group of business promoters headed by Mr. Al Bisno? Why has not the "Chess Review" spoken out against it? Or do they also approve this crime against internationalism in sports?

Odds and Ends . . .

HANK SAUER of the Cubs, who has hit 8 homers to date, is also hitting those outside pitches to right for run delivering base hits, a change from past years and one of the big reasons for the Cubs' early showing. This is what Gil Hodges hasn't mastered yet. . . . Many of the expelled West Point "cribbers" will turn up as football stars on various schools this fall.

U. S. OLYMPIC track coach Brutus Hamilton, observing some of the recent competition, thinks our chances of winning the 400, broad jump and discus are exceptionally good. Ollie Matson, San Francisco U.'s great football star, has run the 440 in 46.9 and may do better. George Brown of UCLA broadjumped 26 feet, 2 inches in the West Coast relays, which would probably be good for victory, and Fortune Gordien, Dick Doyle and Sam Iness are hitting around 170 feet every meet with the discus.

READER LS of Brooklyn—Would like to answer your letter but you sent no address.

BIG BASEBALL DOINGS

MONDAY NIGHT—The Dodgers and the Giants at the Polo Grounds—at last.

TUESDAY NIGHT—The high-flying Washington Senators come into the Stadium with ex-Yanks Jensen, Shea, Wilson and Peterfield, pitching sensation Marrero.

ALL THE EXCITEMENT and color in "On the Scoreboard."

PETTIS PERRY

speaks

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Rally

for the

16 Smith Act Victims

•

to

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Dr. Edward BARSKY
PETTIS PERRY
Defendant
Clifford T. McAVOY
Chairman

plus ENTERTAINMENT

People's Artists

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LEON BIBB • LES PINE

TUESDAY

MAY 27

8:00 P. M.

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TICKETS: Workers Bookshop,
Jefferson Bookshop, World
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Open Fight Vs. War Propaganda In N. Y. Schools

The Eastern Seaboard Committee in Defense of Children is launching a campaign for 20,000 signatures by June 20 on a petition to Superintendent Jansen and the Board of Education to:

• Withdraw the film "Duck and Cover."

• Discontinue air raid drills in the schools.

• Withdraw all dog tags which have been issued and stop issuance of further tags.

Pointing out that a spontaneous protest from parents and other civic-minded individuals had forced Superintendent Jansen to retreat on the question of the dog tags, allowing them to become a "voluntary" matter, the committee feels that a successful campaign for these signatures could rescue our children from this "inevitable war" propaganda.

Leaflets on this subject are being prepared, and will be available together with the petitions at the headquarters of American Women for Peace, 257 Seventh Ave. For further information, call OR 5-8450.

They Called This Union Meeting In Brooklyn a 'Model'—Here's Why

By MICHAEL VARY

When a union almost doubles its attendance at membership meetings, brings out three times as many members to executive board meetings, wins some mighty fine shop victories and conducts some important legislative battles—all within three months—that's news. And that's the story of United Electrical Workers Local 475 for February, March and April.

Around the union hall on Montague Street you still hear talk about the quarterly executive board meeting on May 9 as "a model union meeting."

There used to be 25 or 30 people at such meetings—this time there were 72. They came from every shop, from all over town, with all their various ideas and opinions and outlooks. They came to hear about the three-month-old program of reorganization for more rank and file participation which has already brought a real spurt of activity into the union.

They heard about the 848 to 98 vote at American Safety Razor which routed the IBEW-AFL, and the 112 to 42 vote against IUE-CIO at Bommer Spring Hinge. That's the shop where Tony Cat-

tonar, since deported to Trieste, used to work.

"If they can get Tony, they can get the rest of us," one of the workers said about the witchhunt. A report to all stewards told about more than 5,000 signatures to the FEPC petition, the legislative committee's visits with Congressmen, and a proud total of \$95,210 in economic gains the first three months of 1952.

And they also came to hear Sam Kanter of the Citizens Emergency Defense Conference Against the Smith Act tell of the immediate dangers of this law against trade unionists. "It's not only the Communists who are on trial," he said, "but all of us, every American ideal and every American worker." He cited the statement of a California prosecutor who said a strike is "a call to revolution."

Dorothy Rand, one of the eight suspended teachers, showed how the attacks on teachers are part of the jimmie, anti-Semitic, war hysteria program of the Board of Education. The discussion was lively. There was talk about the wage freeze and the attacks on unions—and also about the Local's victory before the Wage Stabilization Board on policy questions of health insurance and vacations. There were demands for wage increases, for organizing the South, for the rights of women, and especially for FEPC and the need to step up the petition campaign of the National Negro Labor Council.

One member summed it up with these words: "The only way we can get rid of the awful things like wage freeze and Taft-Hartley is to have peace."

Reinstatement of Dr. Harold T. Lenz as dean of students at Queens College has been urged upon Dr. Ordway Tead, chairman of the Board of Higher Education, by the Teachers Union, Local 555, United Public Workers.

In a letter to Dr. Tead, copies of which were sent to other board members, TU legislative representative Rose V. Russell declared: "The attack on Dean Lenz for his defense of civil liberties and for his political activities is an attack on his academic freedom and on that of his colleagues, for which the College is the power. It is a denial, by the Board of Higher Education and the Queens College administration, of first class citizenship to the educator."

"In this the students have a stake that they well understand. They know that their rights to listen, to participate in extra-curricular activities of their choice is also under attack—above all their right to learn—the first and most important casualty of the silencing of independent teachers."

"We urge the Board to retain Dean Lenz in his present post, because he is qualified to serve in this capacity; because he enjoys the confidence and affection of the students; because his removal is a violation of academic freedom in abject capitulation to those who do not understand the function of an institution of higher learning."

"The settlement leaves health and welfare payments deducted by employers from wages. The Boonmen's District Council has rejected the settlement and announced its members will not return to work."

PORTLAND, May 25.—An agreement rejected as "substandard" by three CIO International Woodworkers district councils has been secretly signed by the Columbia River District Council with Columbia Basin operators, it was learned here.

The settlement leaves health and welfare payments deducted by employers from wages.

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Rally Now for
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Protest the Kojie
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Crusade, 125 W. 12th St., New York Peace
Institute, 111 W. 43 St., 44th St. Book
Zale, 352 W. 41 St. Jefferson School,
375 12th St., Avenue

Walter White Warns Demos On Phony FEPC

A compromise on a compulsory FEPC in the Democratic Party platform will cause "widespread repercussions among Negroes and other liberal voters," Walter White, executive secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, has warned Frank McKinney, chairman of the National Democratic Committee.

Prompted by recurrent reports that Kinney is seeking to "tone down the 1948 plank on civil rights" through elimination of specific reference to FEPC and other measures, White wrote the Democratic leader, declaring that Negroes "are gravely disturbed" by these reports.

Representatives of a score of national Negro organizations who met recently in New York agreed, White said in his letter, that such a compromise "would not receive the support of Negro voters or of a considerable number of other liberal voters who are concerned about this fundamental issue."

"In light of this unanimous agreement," the NAACP executive continued, "the reports from Chicago that you would lend your support to proposals to tone down the 1948 position of the Democratic Party is most shocking."

Soviet Women Win Europe Court Title Before 30,000 in Rain

1953 European Men's Tourney to Be Held At New Leningrad Stadium Seating 100,000

MOSCOW, May 25.—The Soviet Union won the European Women's Basketball Championship for the second straight year today, beating Czechoslovakia 52-29 in a driving rain before 30,000 drenched fans at Dynamo Stadium, a real tribute to the tremendous interest in basketball. The Soviet women led 29-22 at the half and then pulled away irresistibly to hold their title.

The Czechs finished second in the tourney, followed by Hungary. Bulgaria beat Poland for fourth. Italy was sixth, and France, a 46-41 winner over tailend Switzerland today, finished seventh.

It was announced that the 1953 Men's European Basketball Championship will be played in Leningrad's new Lenin Stadium, with a seating capacity of 100,000. The Soviet men are European champions and have been rated real competition for the United States' best in the forthcoming Olympics by Yale basketball coach Howard Hobson, Olympic basketball official.

What's On?

Tonight Manhattan

YETS FOR PEACE present Gerald Hagelberg discussing Germany today, Monday, May 26, 8:30 p.m. at 257 Seventh Ave.

Hits Kidnapping Of Ferd. Smith By US Officials

(Reprinted from late edition of The Worker)

By ART SHIELDS

"The U. S. Government is adding kidnapping to genocide," said William L. Patterson, Civil Rights Congress leader, in commenting in the Wednesday night seizure of Ferdinand C. Smith, secretary of the World Federation of Trade Unions, at the Idlewild airport.

Smith—former Secretary of the National Maritime Union, and a world-respected Negro leader—is still imprisoned in the Ellis Island concentration camp. He is held incommunicado, pending deportation to Jamaica next Tuesday. He is not even allowed to see or telephone to the attorneys of the American Committee for the Protection of Foreign Born.

"This is outrageous," said Patterson. "Smith was snatched from the airport as he was stepping from one British Overseas Airway to another on his way from Jamaica to London. This is an international airport. He was not visiting the U. S. He was simply in transit."

Passengers barred from visiting the U. S. are not interfered with in such cases," said Patterson. "They simply remain in the custody of the airways company until the transfer is completed."

"Smith was kidnapped, however, because the immigration officials want to interfere with the World Federation of Trade Unions' work for the oppressed colonial people, whom Smith represents."

The kidnapping is a plain violation of the UN declaration of human rights, Patterson added.

"Smith was publicly honored by President Roosevelt for his splendid work in uniting Negro and white workers during the war," Patterson pointed out.

"He was also honored by admirals for his work in helping to keep the ships sailing through the Nazis' submarine blockade."

"But he was honored most of all by the working people."

THE NEW ISRAEL
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